

Club gunman appears in court

LONDON (R) — An Arab who held dozens of people hostage at an exclusive London nightclub over the weekend appeared in court Monday charged with firearms possession, false imprisonment and carrying out a bomb hoax. Syrian-born Hani Al Rayes, 30, was remanded in custody by a London magistrate's court. Rayes broke into Tokyo Joe's nightclub in London's West End early Sunday and held the mostly Arab clientele at gunpoint, threatening to blow up the building with a bomb strapped to his waist. Rayes, who was armed with a 12-bore shotgun, a rifle and a handgun, gave himself up to armed police after 10 hours inside the club during which many members managed to escape as he became high on whisky and cocaine. The device on his belt turned out to be a fake. He was accused in court of possessing a weapon with intent to endanger life and making murder threats. He also faces two counts of false imprisonment and charges relating to the bomb hoax. Customers said the gunman complained that Arabs were not giving enough support to Palestinians in Lebanon and that he wanted to teach them a lesson.

Jordan Times

An independent Arab political daily published by the Jordan Press Foundation
جوردان تايمز يومية سياسية مستقلة بالإنجليزية عن المؤسسة الصحفية الأردنية. الراي

Arafat to meet with Hamas leaders

ABU DHABI (AP) — Palestinian leader Yasser Arafat was reported Monday to be planning to meet leaders of the Muslim fundamentalist group, Hamas, in one of the Gulf states over the coming few days. Al Ithihad, the state-run newspaper of the United Arab Emirates, said the meeting would aim at political and military coordination to escalate the Palestinian uprising. Hamas, which claims to be a key force behind the uprising, had called on the Palestine Liberation Organisation to allow it half of the seats in the Palestine National Council. The demand has been rejected by the PLO. The paper quoted Palestinian sources, which it did not name, as saying that important messages had been exchanged between Arafat and Hamas leaders this month, resulting in the agreement to hold the meeting. The sources did not name the Gulf state where the meeting will take place. "During the meeting Arafat and Hamas leaders will agree on the number of seats Hamas will occupy in the PNC and consequences for the intifada as a result of a deadlock in peace talks" between Arabs and Israelis over a Middle East settlement, the paper said.

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King, Crown Prince send condolences to Waldheim

AMMAN (Petra) — His Majesty King Hussein Monday sent a cable of condolences to Austrian President Kurt Waldheim on the death of former Austrian Chancellor Bruno Kreisky. The cable paid tribute to the late Austrian chancellor and his worldwide peace efforts. His Royal Highness Crown Prince Hassan also sent a similar cable of condolences to Waldheim. Prince Hassan lauded Kreisky's special contributions to global peace and said "all those who respected his perspectives and courage in serving the causes of humanity will surely miss him."

China offers \$10m interest-free loan

AMMAN (Petra) — The Chinese ambassador to Jordan said Monday China was ready to grant interest-free loans worth \$10 million to Jordan to finance development projects. In a meeting with Minister of Planning Khaled Amin Abdullah, the ambassador said the conditions for these loans would be discussed between the concerned authorities in the two countries. A Chinese economic delegation led by deputy minister of economy and foreign trade is expected to visit Jordan soon to reach an agreement in principle on the use of these loans.

Emigre flights further delayed

HELSINKI (AP) — A foreign ministry spokesman said Monday the planned transfer of Soviet Jews to Israel through Finland would be delayed further, as Israel has not applied for any refugee flights during August. Finnish aviation officials had issued permits for the Israeli airline El Al to make four flights in July from Lappeenranta in eastern Finland to Israel. None of the flights occurred. Finland and Israel had agreed on weekly flights until Oct. 24, each carrying as many as 200 Jews. The plan would have made Finland a fourth major route for the exodus of Soviet Jews, along with Poland, Romania and Hungary.

Israel names new envoy to Egypt

TEL AVIV (R) — The foreign ministry nominated Arabic-speaking career diplomat Ephraim Dubek Monday as Israel's ambassador to Egypt. He will replace Shimon Shamir, who resigned over policy differences with Israel's new right-wing government. Dubek, now Israel's number two at the United Nations in New York, has previously served as a minister in Cairo and ambassador to U.N. organizations in Geneva.

Baker misses talks

SINGAPORE (R) — U.S. secretary of State James Baker had down with a fever Monday and had to spend most of the day in bed, missing economic talks with Asian-Pacific nations. Baker expected to be well enough to fly to Jakarta in the Soviet Union today to meet Soviet Foreign Minister Eduard Shevardnadze, state Department spokeswoman Margaret Tutwiler said.

Lebanese official escapes attack

DON (AP) — The political commissar of the mainstream Lebanese faction escaped an assassination attempt near Sidon Monday, police reported. They said Qusay Awad, 40, was wounded when a remote-controlled bomb detonated as his two-car convoy used by the Hassaniyeh road of this port city. Two of his bodyguards were killed and six others wounded in the attack, according to police.

Israeli armed forces set record draft

TEL AVIV (R) — Hundreds of year-old conscripts queued for recruits, finger prints and gas fittings Monday in the biggest conscription in Israel's history. Military sources said 700 men and women would report for training each day through the third week in August, making total of about 14,000.

King returns after talks with Iraqi, Kuwaiti leaders

AMMAN (J.T.) — His Majesty King Hussein returned home Monday after visits to Iraq and Kuwait where he held talks with the leaders of the two countries on their oil and territorial disputes in a bid to resolve the problem.

No immediate word was available on the outcome of the King's talks with Iraqi President Saddam Hussein in Baghdad Sunday and with the Emir of Kuwait, Sheikh Jaber Al Ahmad Al Sabah, in Kuwait Monday.

"The talks in both countries aimed at narrowing differences between them and safeguarding Arab solidarity," the Jordan News Agency, Petra, reported. Issat Ibrahim, member of the Iraqi Revolutionary Command Council, and Sheikh Saad Al Abdullah Al Sabah, crown prince and prime minister of Kuwait, are scheduled to meet in Jeddah, Saudi Arabia, for talks on the dispute between Iraq and Kuwait.

High hopes pinned on Jeddah talks

JEDDAH (Agencies) — Top officials from Kuwait and Iraq were to meet here Tuesday amid indications their oil and border dispute would be contained for the immediate future.

The pro-government media in the Gulf Monday expressed high hopes that the meeting of Kuwait's Crown Prince and Prime Minister Sheikh Saad Al Abdullah Al Sabah with Iraqi Revolutionary Command Council, would bring about a settlement.

Kuwaiti papers echoed the government's weekend statement of welcome for the meeting, reiterating that Kuwait would be there with an "open heart" to seek a "final just settlement of all pending problems" between the two countries "in a manner ensuring the national sovereignty and legitimate rights of each country."

Iraq has been less enthusiastic about the meeting, which it has described as one of protocol, and has been indicating it will insist on future talks being moved to Baghdad.

Saudi Arabia's influential King Fahd and Egyptian President Hosni Mubarak, working in tandem, led the efforts to contain the crisis suddenly triggered by Iraqi President Saddam Hussein.

The Iraqi-Kuwaiti meeting is being held in Jeddah, the Saudi summer capital.

Kuwait is ready to pay Iraq billions of dollars to drop its claim to disputed territory but diplomats in the region were unsure Baghdad would accept.

which flared after Baghdad accused Kuwait of stealing its oil and of overproduction which caused a glut in the market and brought down prices. Iraq also accused the United Arab Emirates (UAE) of overproduction of oil.

The King held a round of talks with Iraqi President Saddam Hussein shortly after his arrival in Baghdad Sunday and met with him again Monday before leaving for Kuwait, Petra said. The talks were attended by senior officials from both sides.

In Kuwait, the King held talks with Sheikh Jaber and other Kuwaiti leaders.

The King was accompanied on the visit by their Royal Highnesses Prince Faisal, Prince Hamzah and Prince Talal Ben Mohamad, Prime Minister Mudar Badran, Political Advisor Adnan Abu Odeh and Deputy Prime Minister and Foreign Minister Marwan Al Qasem.

"Until this very moment, I don't think the Kuwaitis know what the Iraqis really want," one Gulf-based diplomat said after several days of shuttle diplomacy by Arab leaders who arranged the Jeddah meeting.

Iraq emerged victorious from an OPEC meeting last week that forced Kuwait and other quota-busting Gulf states to accept oil production discipline and Baghdad demands for a higher price.

The diplomats said Iraq may be in no mood to compromise after the success of its tactics. Iraqi President Saddam Hussein says Kuwait and other quota busters stabbed his country in the back by flooding markets with cheap oil. As a result, Iraq lost \$14 billion needed to rebuild its economy after eight years' war with Iran, he says.

Iraq also charges Kuwait stole \$2.4 billion worth of oil from a disputed border oilfield and demands that the Gulf state write off billions of dollars of loans granted during the Gulf war, which ended in an August 1988 ceasefire.

"There will be some hard talking," one Western diplomat said. "Kuwait is not in a position to cede large chunks of territory but it might be willing to give a couple of billion dollars away in exchange for a good deal," he added.

Iraqi demands that Kuwait accept all its claims ahead of the negotiations almost derailed Arab mediation efforts. The Jeddah talks had been set to open.

(Continued on page 5)

Jordan to seek concerted OIC action against Soviet immigration

BAGHDAD (Agencies) — Jordan will bring the attention of the Organisation of Islamic Conference (OIC), to the dangers inherent in Soviet Jewish immigration to Palestine. Deputy Prime Minister and Foreign Minister Marwan Al Qasem said here Monday.

Qasem, who accompanied Prime Minister Mudar Badran to join His Majesty King Hussein in talks with the Iraqi and Kuwaiti leaders, was quoted by the Jordan News Agency, Petra, as saying that the increase in the number of Jewish immigrants in the Israeli-occupied territories was bound to increase Israel's water needs in the future. "Israel is currently stealing the water of the River Jordan and part of the Yarmouk and Litani rivers as well as the underground water resources of occupied Palestine," Qasem said.

He said that Israel's requirements of water after settling the new immigrants will not be less than 500 million cubic metres annually, which means that Israel will try to meet its needs through expansion and aggression on the Arab countries.

Protection of the Arab water resources should be done within the framework of the pan-Arab national security concept, which calls for close coordination and cooperation among the Arab states backed by the Islamic countries, Qasem said.

"The Arab and Islamic nations should work together to short Israel's plans, which are detrimental to the Arab and Islamic world," Qasem said.

He said the OIC was founded in 1969 following the burning of the Al Aqsa Mosque in Jerusalem, and it should direct its attention towards providing protection to its interests in the whole region.

According to Qasem the Palestine question, the adverse effects of Jewish immigration, Israel's obstruction of the peace process and its denial of Arab rights in Palestine will be discussed at the OIC foreign ministers' conference in Cairo which opens Tuesday.

Ministers and other officials from 45 Muslim states gathered in Cairo Monday for their annual policy review, including topics targeting Israel and the United



His Majesty King Hussein with Iraqi President Saddam Hussein in Baghdad on Sunday (left) and with Kuwaiti Emir Sheikh Jaber Al Ahmad Al Sabah in Kuwait Monday (Petra photo)

Conscription exemption charge set at \$6,000

By Ghadeer Taher

Jordan Times Staff Reporter

AMMAN — In an emergency session Sunday the Council of Ministers set \$6,000 as the cost of exemption from the two-year compulsory military service, Cabinet ministers said Monday.

In a session called by Prime Minister Mudar Badran at the airport prior to his departure to Iraq, the Council of Ministers decided to reduce the exemption fee for Jordanian expatriates and their children from an initially-proposed \$10,000 to \$6,000 "in response to demands by Jordanian expatriates," Minister of Labour

Qasem Obeidat said.

The Cabinet decision to reduce the amount was taken because preliminary studies showed that "only five per cent (of eligible Jordanians) were able to pay the \$10,000," Obeidat told the Jordan Times. The exemption law, which will go into effect "in a few days" after it is endorsed by a Royal Decree and published in the official gazette, only applies to Jordanian expatriates and residents in the country who obtain employment contracts abroad, Obeidat said.

According to the minister, the Cabinet set Dec. 31, 1990, as the deadline for payment

for exemption. Another minister said the December deadline could be extended if the Cabinet deemed it necessary.

About 40,000 Jordanians are eligible to benefit from the amendment to the military conscription law out of an estimated 320,000 expatriates most of whom work in Gulf Arab states, Badran said during a Lower House of Parliament debate over the law last month. Statistical estimates show that nearly one million Jordanian nationals live abroad.

According to Obeidat, the exemption charges will be collected directly by the Ministry of Finance or through Jordanian

nian embassies and representative consulates. In turn, the ministry would issue a list of those exempted to army conscription centres.

The exemption law "will encourage many Jordanians to seek jobs abroad, thus reducing unemployment and increasing foreign exchange revenues from remittances," Obeidat said.

The government-proposed law was endorsed by the Lower House on June 16 after a heated debate in which several deputies criticised the law as "class prejudiced" while others called for the total abolition of compulsory military service.

Andreotti wins vote

ROME (R) — Italian Prime Minister Giulio Andreotti easily won a confidence vote Monday, called to help push through a controversial broadcasting bill which almost brought down his year-old coalition government.

The Christian Democrat premier's victory averted a paralyzing government crisis just one month into Italy's presidency of the European Community.

The Chamber of Deputies (lower house) voted 358 to 34 for amendments to a broadcasting bill which last week prompted the resignation of five ministers from Andreotti's own party.

But the rebel faction has threatened to continue fighting the bill when it reaches the senate, and Andreotti may be forced to call another confidence vote there to force the law through.

Opposition Communist Party (PCI) deputies boycotted the chamber Monday in protest at the confidence vote over the three amendments to the bill.

Israelis shell Hizbollah base, kill 10

METULLA (Agencies) — Israeli tanks and artillery pounded guerrilla positions in the Lebanese village of Jarjouch Monday, killing 10 Hizbollah fighters, security sources in South Lebanon said.

Earlier Israeli Defence Minister Moshe Arens said Israel would intervene in battles between Hizbollah (Party of God) and its rival Shi'ite Amal militia if the Jewish state felt "endangered."

"Israeli tanks and artillery shelled positions north of the (Israeli-declared South Lebanon) security zone," one security source said. "Ten Hizbollah men were killed and four were wounded in Jarjouch."

Arens told reporters in Tel

Aviv: "We will act if our interests are in danger. We wouldn't be happy to get involved."

About 190 people have been killed and more than 400 wounded since the latest round in a three-year struggle between the Shi'ite forces erupted July 16.

Early in the fighting Hizbollah captured Jarjouch, 18 kilometres north of the Israeli border. The village has been the site of some of the fiercest battles.

By police count, 1,232 people have been killed and 4,203 wounded in the inconclusive power struggle.

Police said Hizbollah gunners shelled the Hamadeh and Sakhrieh hills with artillery and rocket fire from their beleaguered positions in the Kfar Milki village below the two bluffs.

Amal militiamen and Palestine Liberation Organisation (PLO) guerrillas responded with mortar barrages on Hizbollah's 50-man garrison in Kfar Milki.

Palestinian and Amal fighters wrested the two hills from Hizbollah after 36 hours of savage combat Sunday, sealing off all escape routes for the fundamentalists.

A Hizbollah communiqué claimed its fighters drove back an attack before dawn Monday into Kfar Milki, 10 kilometres southeast of Sidon, provincial capital of South Lebanon.

The International Committee

of the Red Cross said it was in contact with the warring factions Monday for a "mercy ceasefire" to remove rotting bodies from a cluster of embattled villages in the region.

Ferocious battles Sunday forced the all-Swiss ICRC to cancel a foray into the region, which covers 130 square kilometres of rocky highlands southeast of Sidon.

"We're trying to establish a cease-fire first before we move into Iqim Al Tuffah," said an ICRC spokesman.

"We hope we'll be able to carry out our humanitarian mission today," said the spokesman, who asked not to be named.

Hrawi clamps diplomatic, economic blockade on Aoun

BEIRUT (AP) — President Elias Hrawi's government Monday clamped an economic and diplomatic blockade on rebel General Michel Aoun in an attempt to oust him from the Christian enclave north of Beirut.

Syria, the main power broker in Lebanon, immediately expressed support for the move.

A government directive instructed military checkpoints on all gateways into Aoun-controlled areas to prohibit the passage of fuel tankers and trucks carrying ammunition or spare parts to Aoun's 19,000 troops.

The directive banned civilians going into Aoun's land from carrying more than 100,000 Lebanese pounds roughly \$150, and prohibited money transfers to banks operating in his area.

The foreign ministry in west Beirut called in diplomatic representatives of all countries with embassies in Lebanon and notified them that it will not tolerate any contacts by them with the maverick general.

A government statement said the blockade was "an initial move to end Aoun's mutiny" and that if it failed to accomplish its objective, a food blockade would be proclaimed after two weeks.

Hrawi's army commander, Gen. Emile Lahoud, also issued an appeal to officers and troops under Aoun to renounce him and declare allegiance to the president.

Aoun, who controls roughly 20 per cent of the Christian enclave, denounced Hrawi's blockade as an "attempt to starve out the people" and declared the gateways into his area open around the clock, instead of only in daytime.

Analysts say effectiveness of the blockade depends largely on how far Syria is willing to go in supporting Hrawi's drive to reestablish state authority, eroded by 15 years of civil war between Muslims and Christians.

A spokesman for Syrian President Hafez Al Assad said in Damascus that Assad had pledged to Lebanese Christian leaders that Syria would "fully support" efforts to extend the

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(Continued on page 5)

Trinidad government says end near to hostage crisis

PORT OF SPAIN (Agencies) — A Trinidad and Tobago government spokesman said Monday an agreement was imminent on the release of more than 30 hostages including the country's prime minister held by black Muslim rebels.

Major Dave Williams, press officer for the information ministry, told Reuters: "Under the agreement, the hostages will be released unharmed and the rebels will be allowed to go free to their homes on the outskirts of Port-of-Spain."

Knesi Atiba, a spokesman for the rebel group Jamaat Al Muslimin, told Reuters in a telephone interview from the Caribbean nation's state television

offices that an agreement had been reached.

The rebels seized Prime Minister A.N.R. Robinson said 30 government officials when they captured the parliament buildings and the state television station Friday. Other people are believed to be held hostage at the station, scene of a firefight between troops and rebels Monday.

Atiba said that under the accord, the hostages would be released in several stages. He also said that Robinson had agreed to resign effective immediately and the country would be run by a government of national unity until new elections in 90 days.

Atiba said the rebels had been granted an amnesty and their

leader, Yasin Abu Bakr, would be part of the interim government.

The rebels have said they staged the attempted coup because of government corruption and austerity measures. Some observers said the coup attempt was triggered by a police raid last month on swamp land developed by the Muslim group on the outskirts of the capital.

The Roman Catholic archbishop of Trinidad, who was involved in negotiations with the rebels, said Saturday that Abu Bakr had told him the prime minister and the other hostages had been wired with explosives and would be blown up if attempts were made to free them.

Nablus boy shot dead

OCCUPIED JERUSALEM (Agencies) — A 15-year-old Palestinian boy died Monday from a gunshot wound suffered in a clash with Israeli soldiers in the occupied West Bank.

Israel, meanwhile, released information about what it said was a guerrilla cell belonging to the Fatah wing of the Palestine Liberation Organisation (PLO), which was indicted in a military court last week.

The cell members, all Israeli Arabs, were charged with planting a number of bombs in Israel.

Arab reports identified the shooting victim as Sahar Baarah, 15, from the West Bank city of Nablus, who was shot in the head Saturday night. Baarah died in hospital Monday.

The army confirmed that a Palestinian died from a plastic bullet wound sustained during stone-throwing clashes in Nablus Saturday.

Also in Nablus, the military and the Shin Bet security service uncovered a guerrilla base that served a group calling itself the "Revolutionary Security Service," the military command said.

The group, affiliated with Fatah, has attacked and violently interrogated dozens of Palestinians it suspected of collaborating with Israel during the 31-month uprising, the army said. Some of the suspects have been killed by group members, it said.

Algerian Islamic leader protests women voting

By Rachid Khairy
The Associated Press

ALGIERS — Islamic leader Abassi Madani Monday welcomed bringing national elections forward a year but warned that liberalising voting rights for women would violate religious law.

The leader of the Islamic Salvation Front (FIS) praised President Chadli Benjedid's announcement Sunday to hold parliamentary elections in the first four months of 1991. They had been scheduled for February 1992.

"I congratulate the president for his decision, even if it took a long time," said Madani. "The split between us and the ruling power is now something of the past."

But the 59-year-old philosophy professor criticised calls by secular political parties to modify Algeria's so-called "family law" that gives husbands the right to vote for their wives.

"The Islamic Sharia gives and defines all rights for a Muslim woman," Madani said. "It's enough to apply it, keeping in

mind respect for women." Secular political parties complain that the law played a key role in the fundamentalists' June 12 victory over the ruling National Liberation Front (FLN) in regional and local elections.

The contest marked the first free elections in the country since independence from France in 1962. The two largest secular opposition parties boycotted the voting.

The Islamic Salvation Front has since made repeated calls to move up elections for the People's National Assembly, stating it cannot implement its programmes on the local level without national power. All 295 seats in the assembly are held by the FLN.

Benjedid said after a cabinet meeting Sunday that would move up the elections "after lengthy reflection and my conviction that the political parties will respect the rules of democracy."

He confirmed the appointment

of army Chief of Staff General Khaled Nezzar as the first defence minister since 1965. He also appointed Colonel Bashir Lareche head of the national police.

Berber leader Hocine Ait-Ahmad, leader of the centrist Front of Socialist Forces that boycotted the June campaign, said his party would probably participate in the legislative elections.

Ait-Ahmad urged all democratic parties to unite against the fundamentalists and the FLN and "guarantee that Algeria will know for the first time in its history really free elections."

Benjedid also Sunday granted amnesty to hundreds of people charged with political and social crimes stemming from riots in October 1988 over deteriorating economic conditions.

The demonstrations left scores of people dead and forced Benjedid to institute constitutional reforms in February 1989 that allowed multi-partyism, leading to June's elections.

Previously, the socialist, Islamic-orientated National Liberation Front was the sole legal

political party. The constitutional changes also guaranteed equality of the sexes, but has not yet been used to override the 1986 family law that allows a woman's husband to cast a ballot in her name with written permission.

Moving the legislative elections up a year seems certain to pressure Benjedid to speed up reforms in the FLN and to distance himself further from the movement's old guard.

The new constitution separates the government from the FLN. Reformers like Prime Minister Mouloud Hamrouche have recently appointed several Benjedid supporters to the cabinet.

Since the June elections, the Islamic Salvation Front has moved to instigate its programme based on Islamic law in localities where it is dominant.

Two towns have forbidden the wearing of shorts and others have banned the sale of alcoholic beverages. One community cancelled a festival of the popular raï music, which celebrates love and youthful revolt, as contrary to the Sharia.

MIDDLE EAST NEWS IN BRIEF

Rebel Kurds kill Turkish officers

ANKARA (R) — Separatist Kurds killed two Turkish army officers and five soldiers after losing at least 30 of their own fighters in clashes last week, Anatolian news agency said Monday. The rebels ambushed a military convoy near Pervari town in the southeast province of Siirt on Sunday night, killing a major, a captain and five soldiers. At least 30 Marxist Kurdish Workers Party (PKK) rebels, nine soldiers and two civilian village guards were killed in clashes in the southeast last week, the semi-official agency said. Nearly 2,500 people have died in the six-year-old insurgency aimed at independence for Turkey's estimated 10 million Kurdish speakers. In June 1983 people died, the highest monthly figure so far. Some 60,000 troops stage an average of 35 military operations daily across mountainous areas of the south-east, Milliyet newspaper quoted officials as saying. It said most of the clashes were in a triangle of rugged terrain between Pervari, Sirnak and Uludere towns. Uludere is 10 kilometres from the Iraqi border.

Court sentences Sudanese to hang

KHARTOUM (AP) — A court has sentenced a Sudanese man to death by hanging after finding him guilty of dealing in hashish, the daily newspaper Al Kurat Al Musallaha reported Monday. Mohammad Fadlallah Osman will be the second man to die under the strict anti-drugs laws introduced shortly after the June 30, 1989 military coup led by Omar Hassan Al Bashir. Three men convicted of dealing illegally in hard currency also have been executed under harsh laws Bashir decreed to destroy rampant black market activity. The court sentenced Sadek Abdul Manla to 20 years imprisonment for helping Osman distribute hashish. Three other defendants in the case got 10 years imprisonment each.

Moroccan group demands amnesty

RABAT (R) — The Moroccan human rights organisation (OMDH) called Monday for an amnesty for all political prisoners and said exiles should be allowed to return. Rights groups, opposition parties and trade unions have all urged a general amnesty for political prisoners estimated to number between 250 and 360, including Marxists and Islamic fundamentalists. The OMDH made its plea in memorandum to the Consultative Council on Human Rights. King Hassan founded the council in April after the London-based Amnesty International denounced abuses in Morocco. The OMDH, an independent group formed in December 1988, confirmed part of the Amnesty report, which said suspects were held in custody illegally for long periods without trial and subjected to "violences and constraints."

Arrests made in Beirut arms case

MARSEILLE, France (R) — Police investigating the smuggling of arms into France by guards at the French embassy in Beirut have arrested the father of a policeman who served at the Beirut mission, investigators said Monday. Weapons, including assault rifles, were found in a search of the home of the father of riot policeman Jean-Claude Alibert. The younger Alibert is one of 17 men, including 10 police officers, charged so far with involvement in the alleged purchase of weapons from Beirut militiamen for sale to the French underworld. Alibert's father and another man were arrested at the weekend and are expected to be charged shortly, police said.

EXPRESSION OF GRATITUDE

Ann Bomann would like to express her sincere gratitude to His Majesty King Hussein

for the overwhelming help and support extended to ensure the welfare of her daughter, Catherine Blessed, while in hospital; and also her gratitude goes to

His Excellency Prime Minister Mudar Badran

and to Minister of Tourism and Antiquities Abdul Karim Kabariti, and to Dr. Ghazi Blaseh, director of the Department of Antiquities.

She would also like to express deep gratitude to Dr. Aref Al Batayneh, director of the King Hussein Medical Centre, Dr. Bassam Akasheh, Dr. Elias Hattar, Dr. Yousef Arikat, the doctors, nurses, physiotherapists and staff of the Queen Alia Heart Institute, and the Farah Royal Jordanian Rehabilitation Centre at the King Hussein Medical Centre for their excellent work and care which saved her daughter's life and brought her to full recovery.

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Pakistan seeks GCC help to defuse tension

ABU DHABI (AP) — Pakistan wants the Gulf Cooperation Council (GCC) member states to play a positive role in defusing tension between Pakistan and India and bring about a just settlement of the Kashmir dispute, a senior Pakistani official said Monday.

"The Gulf states have the best of relations with both India and Pakistan," said Iqbal Akhund, foreign affairs and national security advisor to Prime Minister Benazir Bhutto, during a short visit to Abu Dhabi.

Akhund said he delivered a message in this respect from Bhutto to Sheikh Zayed Ben Sultan Al Nahyan, president of the United Arab Emirates (UAE).

"In the message, Bhutto explained to Sheikh Zayed the latest developments in Kashmir, including the results of the foreign secretary level talks held between Pakistan and India in Islamabad," he said.

He said the message pointed out that no progress was made the joint meeting on any of the issues which were at the root of the current tension between Pakistan and India, specifying these to revolve around "recognition of the right of self-determination for the Kashmiri people."

Akhund charged that the deployment of Indian troops inside Kashmir and on the borders with Pakistan was the cause of the tension.

"In the message, Pakistan expressed hope that the foreign ministers' conference of the Organisation of Islamic Conference (OIC) beginning Tuesday in Cairo would take cognizance of the situation and would call for a just and equitable solution to the

Kashmir issue," he said.

Pakistan wished the OIC members "to call upon India to remove troops from its border, ask it to stop repressive action in Kashmir and appeal to both Pakistan and India to negotiate a peaceful settlement," he said.

Akhund said he was assured by the GCC states that their foreign ministers in the OIC conference will play a positive role in the Kashmir dispute.

The GCC groups Saudi Arabia, Kuwait, Qatar, Bahrain and Oman as well as the UAE. The six states are prominent members of the 45-member OIC, umbrella for the world's estimated one billion Muslims.

Pakistan's diplomatic offensive ahead of the Islamic conference has been countered with warnings by New Delhi against raising the issue of Kashmir at the Cairo meeting. New Delhi officials said last week that such Pakistani move would further hurt New Delhi's ties with Islamabad.

Pakistan is a prominent member of the OIC. But most OIC states also enjoy good relations with India, and though they condemn some practices by Indian troops inside Kashmir, they have been pressing for a peaceful settlement of the crisis between India and Pakistan.

Kashmir is inhabited by a Muslim majority in an otherwise predominantly Hindu India. The province was divided between Pakistan and India with the British withdrawal in the forties, and has already sparked two of three wars between the two countries.

More than 800 people have been killed by the Indian crackdown in Kashmir since the latest fresh round of insurgency which started in January.

Najibullah hopes Afghan problem can be resolved

NEW DELHI (AP) — U.S.-Soviet talks may facilitate an agreement on Afghanistan, but the Afghan people must settle their own problems, President Najibullah said in an interview published Monday.

"If all international and regional problems are being solved through peaceful means, Afghanistan cannot remain as an exception — like a handkerchief to be folded and kept in a separate pocket," he told the Indian newspaper the Hindustan Times.

U.S. Secretary of State James Baker and Soviet Foreign Minister Eduard Shevardnadze will meet Wednesday and Thursday in Irkutsk in central Siberia to discuss Afghanistan.

"We welcome any effort and initiative by other countries, especially the superpowers, aimed at the cessation of war and restoration of peace in Afghanistan," Najibullah said in the interview Thursday in Kabul.

He said U.S.-Soviet action could speed up progress towards peace, "however, it is the Afghans themselves who should settle the problems relating to them and their country."

"We Afghans should come together for negotiations and hold a dialogue and pave the way for peace and rehabilitation. These efforts can lead to a series of international accords or an international consensus," he said.

Najibullah's departure Sunday for Moscow led to reports in Pakistan that U.S. and Soviet officials have reached a tacit agreement that he will play no role in a new government and would step down before his successor takes over.

The United States has agreed that Najibullah can remain as president of Afghanistan, providing he turns over control of the military, the state media and the secret police to a neutral body during an election.

The United States has also said Najibullah can run in the election.

Najibullah, who uses just one name like many Afghans, made no reference during the interview to the possibility of his stepping down.

Since Baker and Shevardnadze met in Paris earlier this month, speculation has been rife that they were laying the groundwork for a political settlement to Afghanistan's war.

More than 115,000 Soviet soldiers withdrew from Afghanistan in 1989 after nine years of military intervention. The Kremlin originally launched its invasion force to crush a burgeoning insurgency and install a sympathetic government in Kabul.

Since withdrawing, Moscow has been sending military and humanitarian aid worth about \$300 million a month to Kabul.

Washington has been sending \$300 million to \$500 million worth of military aid a year to insurgents, headquartered in Pakistan.

Baker denied Wednesday a U.S. television report that Washington and Moscow were close to a deal on Afghanistan. ABC Television, quoting Western diplomatic sources in Moscow, said an immediate ceasefire would be announced during the meeting between Baker and Shevardnadze.

A Western diplomat in Islamabad said he did not expect such a deal at the Irkutsk talks. ABC said that under the agreement the United States would stop sending arms to the guerrillas and the Soviet Union would stop supplying Najibullah's government.

A TASTE of the USA Come Enjoy the taste of America

TO DAY... TOMORROW... AFTER TOMORROW...

FREE

Rainbow Market (Jabal Amman)
Jordan Supermarket (Shmeisani)
Family Stores Commercial Center (Mecca St.)

Agents Lalita Trading Est. Tel. 684261

JORDAN TIMES DAILY GUIDE AND CALENDAR

JORDAN TELEVISION

Tel: 773111-19

PROGRAMME ONE
15:30 Koran
15:45 Programme review
15:45 Children programmes
16:00 News Summary
16:10 Local programme
16:15 Programme review
16:20 News in Arabic
16:25 Arabic series
16:30 Programme review
16:35 Local programme
16:40 News summary in Arabic

PROGRAMME TWO
17:45 Documentary
18:10 Des chiffres et de lettres
18:30 Tel Pen Tel Fil
18:35 News in French
18:40 Aujourd'hui en Jordanie
18:45 News in Hebrew
18:50 News in Arabic
18:55 Golden Girls
19:10 Heart of the High Country
19:15 News in English
19:20 Paradise
19:25 Police Squad

PRAYER TIMES

04:16 Fajr
05:45 (Sunrise) Dhuhr
12:42 Dhuhr
16:22 'Asr
19:39 Maghreb
21:06 'Isha

CHURCHES

St. Mary of Nazareth Church, Sweifish Tel. 810740.
Assembly of God Church, Tel. 632785, 685326.
St. Joseph Church Tel. 624590.
Church of the Annunciation Tel. 637440.
De la Salle Church Tel. 661757
Ternassata Church Tel. 622366
Church of the Annunciation Tel. 623541.
Anglican Church Tel. 625383, Tel. 628543.
Armenian Catholic Church Tel. 771331.
Armenian Orthodox Church Tel. 773261.
St. Ephraim Church Tel. 771751.
Assiuta International Church Tel. 685326.
Evangelical Lutheran Church Tel. 811285.
The Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-Day Saints Tel. 815817, 654932.

WEATHER

Bulletin supplied by the Department of Meteorology.
It will be fair and windy with be northerly moderate to fresh. In Amman, winds will be northerly moderate and seas calm.
Min./max. temp.

Amman 17 / 30
Aqaba 24 / 38
Deserts 18 / 34
Jordan Valley 22 / 37

Yesterday's high temperatures: Amman 29, Aqaba 36. Humidity readings: Amman 39 per cent, Aqaba 23 per cent.

USEFUL TELEPHONE NUMBERS

NIGHT DUTY
AMMAN:
Dr. Othman Mustafa 774024
Dr. Zein Zaghoul 638591
Dr. Abdul Wahab Awad 846070
Dr. Riqa Abu Zineh (—)
First pharmacy 661912
First pharmacy 773536
Al Assara pharmacy 637055
Naironk pharmacy 623672
Al Salam pharmacy 636730
Yacoub pharmacy 644945
Shmeisani pharmacy 637660

IBRD:
Dr. Mohammad Fawzi (—)
Al Sharra pharmacy (985238)
ZARQA:
Dr. Mufeed Damra (—)

Khalifeh pharmacy 985417

EMERGENCIES

Civil Defence Department 661111
Civil Defence Immediate 693041
Rescue 199
Civil Defence Emergency 637777
Fire Brigade 891228
Blood Bank 773121
Highway Police 843402
Traffic Police 896390
Public Security Department 630321
Hotel Complaints 605800
Price Complaints 661176
Water and Sewerage 897467
Amman Municipality 787111
Complaints 121
Overseas Calls 010230
Central Amman Telephones 623101
Abdali Telephone Repairs 661191
Jordan Television 773111
Radio Jordan 774111
Water Authority 680100
Jordan Electricity Authority 815615
Electric Power 636381
RJ Flight Information 06-53200
Queen Alia Intl. Airport 06-53200

HOSPITALS

AMMAN:
Hussein Medical Centre 813613/32
Khalifeh Maternity, J. Amn 642816/6
Akhil Maternity, J. Amn 642441/2
Jabal Amman Maternity 642362
Malhas, J. Amman 636140
Palestine, Shmeisani 6647174
Shmeisani Hospital 669131
University Hospital 845845
Al-Musader Hospital 667227/9
The Islamic, Abdali 666177/7
Al-Ahli, Abdali 664164/6
Italian, Al-Muhajirun 77101/3
Al-Bashir, J. Ashrafieh 775111/26
Army, Marfa 891611/15
Queen Alia Hospital 602240/50
Amal Hospital 674155
ZARQA:
ZARQA Govt. Hospital (09)983323
ZARQA National Hospital (09)991071
Ibn Sina Hospital (09)986732
IBRD:
Princess Basma Hospital (02)275555
Greek Catholic Hospital (02)272275
Ibn Al Nafies Hospital (02)247100
AQABA:
Princess Haya Hospital (03)314111

FOR THE TRAVELLER

QUEEN ALIA INTERNATIONAL AIRPORT

This information is supplied by Royal Jordanian (RJ) information department at the Queen Alia International Airport. Tel. (06)3200-5, where it should always be verified.

ARRIVALS

Royal Jordanian (RJ) Flights (Terminal 1)

06:45 Singapore, Kuala Lumpur (RJ)
06:50 Baghdad (RJ)
07:15 Muscat (RJ)
08:00 Jeddah (RJ)
08:00 Baghdad (RJ)
08:15 Abu Dhabi (RJ)
08:20 Cairo (RJ)
08:30 Dubai (RJ)
08:30 Kuwait (RJ)
08:35 Bahrain, Doha (RJ)
08:40 Cairo (RJ)
08:45 Montreal, New York (RJ)
09:00 Belgrade (RJ)
09:05 Tripoli (RJ)
09:15 Rome (RJ)
09:20 Frankfurt, Copenhagen (RJ)
09:25 Rome (RJ)
09:30 Jeddah (RJ)

Other Flights (Terminal 2)

09:00 Beirut (ME)
09:15 Kuwait (KU)
09:30 Cairo (MS)
09:40 Riyadh (SV)

13:20 Moscow (SU)
13:30 Cairo (MS)
13:35 Riyadh (SV)
17:25 Rome (AZ)
20:10 Zurich, Lameca (SR)
20:30 Beirut (ME)

DEPARTURES

Royal Jordanian (RJ) Flights (Terminal 1)

06:00 Aqaba (RJ)
06:15 London (RJ)
06:30 Belgrade (RJ)
06:40 Tripoli (RJ)
06:45 Cairo (RJ)
06:50 Vienna, Frankfurt (RJ)
07:15 Vienna (RJ)
07:30 Rome, Madrid (RJ)
07:35 Geneva, Brussels (RJ)
07:40 Paris (RJ)
07:45 Lameca (RJ)
07:50 Bahrain, Doha (RJ)
07:55 Dhahran (RJ)
08:00 Jeddah (RJ)
08:05 Kuwait (RJ)
08:10 Cairo (RJ)
08:15 Abu Dhabi, Dubai (RJ)
08:20 Rome (RJ)
08:25 Jeddah (RJ)

Other Flights (Terminal 2)

09:00 Beirut (ME)
09:15 Kuwait (KU)
09:30 Cairo (MS)
09:40 Riyadh (SV)

15:00 Moscow (SU)

MARKET PRICES

Upper/lower price in fils per kg:
Apples 700 / 600
Apricots 600 / 500
Bananas 500 / 450
Bananas (Makassar) 450 / 400
Beans 450 / 400
Cabbage 1307 / 90
Carrot 240 / 200
Cauliflower 250 / 200
Corn 180 / 104
Cucumbers (large) 300 / 200
Cucumbers (small) 220 / 160
Eggplant 120 / 90
Figs 750 / 600
Garlic 1100 / 900
Grapefruit 340 / 280
Grapes 280 / 220
Lemon 440 / 400
Mallow 90 / 50
Marrow (large) 100 / 50
Marrow (small) 200 / 150
Onion (dry) 200 / 180
Onion (wet) 450 / 380
Oranges 280 / 220
Peaches 350 / 320
Pear 450 / 380
Pepper (hot) 200 / 150
Pepper (sweet) 200 / 150
Potato 280 / 220
Radish 170 / 120
Sage 180 / 140
Sweet melon 130 / 100
Tomatoes 130 / 90
Watermelon 120 / 80

Natural gas used to generate energy

AMMAN (J.T.) — The Ministry of Energy and Mineral Resources is currently making arrangements to transfer two power turbines from a point south of Amman to Al Rishah gas field near the Iraqi border in a bid to increase electric generation by employing natural gas produced there and reducing dependency on oil products for power generation.

The announcement was made by Minister of Energy and Mineral Resources Thabet Al Taher who said that following the installation of the turbines, power generated from the gas-powered station will cover nearly 25 per cent of the total amount of power needed for the Kingdom, up from 15 per cent at present.

Currently two gas-driven turbines are producing nearly 15 per cent of the country's total needs of electricity, saving the country up to \$10 million-worth of energy fuel purchased from Iraq and Saudi Arabia.

Each of the turbines, the minister said, produces up to 30 megawatts.

Last February a Canadian energy expert working for the Petro-Canada International Assistance Corporation (PCIAC) said that estimates of gas reserves

at Al Rishah field have risen to 500 billion cubic feet and might go higher.

PCIAC, which is helping the Natural Resources Authority (NRA) search for oil and gas, last November estimated reserves at Al Rishah at 260 billion cubic feet.

NRA Director-General Kamal Jreissat told the Jordan Times last week that Al Rishah gas fields produce some 22 million cubic feet of natural gas on a daily basis, part of which is being used to produce electricity.

Last December, the Kuwait Fund for Arab Economic Development lent the Jordan Electricity Authority (JEA) \$10 million to move the two 30-megawatt-gas turbines to Al Rishah fields.

Thabet Al Taher, who was speaking in an interview with "Anwar" magazine published by the Jordan Electric Power Company (JEPCO), said that the Ministry of Energy was trying to produce electricity from wind power at Al Ibrahimieh region.

The ministry has already installed four 80-kilowatt wind power units at Al Ibrahimieh and the power produced by the units is already fed into the national grid.

At present, German-built wind mills are installed at Jurt Al Darawish, a remote village some 170 kilometres south of Amman, producing electric power for the village's residents and farming projects.

"The Ministry of Energy and Mineral Resources aims at providing energy from sources other than oil and its products, taking advantage of the natural resources found in the Kingdom and cooperating with the Arab Cooperation Council (ACC) countries," Taher said in his statement.

The ministry, he added, gives special attention to JEPCO, assisting it to produce power and meet the country's growing needs.

Cooperation with JEPCO and other concerned departments aims at finding ways that can help Jordan overcome the effects of difficult economic situation and the soaring prices.

"Raising the rates of electricity charges can have a negative effect on the national economic performance," the minister said. "For this reason efforts are being exerted to reduce the cost of energy production and improve the technical performance."

Team presents feasibility study on agricultural project

AMMAN (Petra) — A Japanese technical team entrusted with working out a feasibility study on an agricultural development project within the Karak and Tafleeh regions in southern Jordan Monday presented its report to the Ministry of Planning.

The team members discussed with the ministry's senior officials and specialists, including its secretary-general, various aspects of the project which envisages planting fruit trees, producing cereals and developing livestock wealth.

"The project aims at increasing local residents' income and creating jobs for residents of the rural areas in the south," according to a ministry official.

"The Japanese team's report provides ideas on marketing the products and on linking production areas with the availability of

water resources," he said.

The ministry official said that the project was to be carried out on a 120,000 hectares of land. The area is inhabited by 40,000 people and covers 194 villages. The total workforce is estimated at 280,800, nearly 5.7 per cent of the country's total workforce.

He said that the project was expected to be carried out in Wadi Al Abiad, Diban, Tafleeh and Karak and the land will be cultivated with wheat, barley, fruit trees and fodder. Livestock farms will be created as well, he said.

The ministry official said that the Jordanian side would study the report, make amendments and add remarks before handing it over again to the Japanese team for a final version expected by October.

Arab agricultural organisation to support Palestinian farmers

AMMAN (Petra) — The Arab Organisation for Agricultural Development (AOAD), which ended its 20th meeting in Amman Monday, has decided among other things to provide support for agricultural development programmes in the occupied Arab territories, according to Dr. Abdul Rahman Al Tayyeb, the AOAD's deputy director general.

He said that the decision was taken in recognition of the essential role Palestinian farmers can play in supporting the Arab people's steadfastness in the Israeli-held Arab territories.

"The AOAD, which met at ministerial level, has also appealed to all Arab governments to open their markets for agricultural crops from Lebanon and to remove all restrictions on importing these crops so that they can compete with products from

non-Arab countries," Tayyeb added.

He said that the meeting endorsed several resolutions and recommendations including one which calls for the work to start on creating a green belt around the North African Arab countries to help them stem desertification.

The AOAD decided to allocate \$1 million to finance the first phase of this project in the coming year. The fund will finance a feasibility study on the project, essential technical equipment, specialists and management and the laying down of the infrastructure for the belt.

In the two-day meeting, he said, the delegates reviewed a report on the organisation's operations and achievements, endorsed budgets for 1991 and 1992 and approved 14 various projects related to agricultural development.

Ministry sets Aug. 3 women federation meeting

AMMAN (J.T.) — Minister of Social Development Abdul Majid Shreideh announced Monday that the General Federation of Jordanian Women (GFJW) would hold its general conference in Amman on Friday Aug. 3 now that all the provincial women councils in the eight governorates have been created.

"The provincial councils have also elected their executive boards and nominated their representatives for the general conference which will elect the GFJW's executive committee," the minister said in a statement to the Jordan News Agency, Petra.

Referring to the controversy which arose Saturday over the ministry's plans concerning the GFJW and its decision to change article 12 of the federation's charter, the minister said that the federation, which was founded in 1981, had its charter amended in 1989, but the amendment remained a source of controversy due to its ambiguous terms especially regarding federation elections.

"This situation led to sharp differences among the federation members, prompting the ministry to request federation members to find an acceptable formula for all provincial committees," the minister said.

He said that unfortunately the federation members failed to agree on a formula and the ministry had to call a meeting of representatives of all women unions and representatives of various societies during which a general discussion took place and various views were examined.

Differences persisted, he said, and the delegates left the matter to the ministry to take a proper decision, binding for all unions, especially with regard to the election system.

The ministry subsequently conducted a thorough study of the laws and regulations, Shreideh said, and decided on the following:

First: those who had served as members of the union's council in any province for two successive terms cannot run for a third term in their respective regions.

Second: members who had served as president or member of

the council's executive committee for two successive terms cannot be elected for a third term.

Third: each member in any province has one vote even though she is affiliated to more than one women's society.

Fourth: according to article 12 of the charter, each provincial council has the right to elect at least five members to represent that particular council in the general conference. In addition, each 50 independent provincial council members can elect three members to attend the general conference on Friday in their independent status.

On Saturday, a seven-member delegation representing the federation, met with the Speaker of the Lower House of Parliament Sulaiman Arar and presented him with a petition protesting the ministry's stand vis-a-vis the federation's laws and the charter's article 12.

The protesters said that the women's councils, which group 4,500 members, are disproportionately represented at the federation's general conferences.

Jordan honours Japanese contribution to arts exhibition

By Serene Halasa

Special to the Jordan Times

AMMAN — In its efforts to promote tourism in Jordan, the Jordanian government has been seeking sponsors for their touring exhibition 900 years of Cultures and Arts. One of the sponsors is the biggest Japanese financial newspaper "Japan Economic Daily" whose contribution to the exhibition was \$400,000. In appreciation for his company's contribution Akira Arai, president and chief executive officer of the newspaper, was decorated with the Kawkab Medal of the Third Order by Her Majesty Queen Noor, yesterday July 30.

"Although our newspaper is an economic and business newspaper, we feel that culture and art are very important; they are the right and left wheels of a car, and they should be given a lot of attention," Akira Arai said in an interview with Jordan Times.

In his first visit to Jordan, Arai met with many ministers and high government officials. "I found the management in this country to be very effective, and I found Jordan to be a very bright place. I wish I could return sometime soon," Arai said. He also expressed his gratitude at being honoured with a medal on behalf of the Jordanian government and people.

"I think that our newspaper, 'Japan Economic Daily', with a circulation of three million copies a day, is the largest economic and business daily newspaper in the world in terms of circulation," Arai said. Aside from the 'Japan Economy Daily', whose annual sales are \$1.5 billion worth, Arai's company owns three other different newspapers: the Nikkei Industrial, with a circulation of 270,000, the Nikkei Financial, with a circulation of a bit more than 60,000, and the Nikkei Marketing

Journal, with a circulation of 370,000. The total annual sales of the three newspapers is \$400,000. In addition to the daily newspapers, the company owns five television stations, Japan's largest economic data banks, a shortwaves broadcasting company, and a publishing house.

"I believe that through the media, exhibitions and tours, we will be able to contribute to building a bridge between our people and the Jordanian people," Arai said. He also added that last year reportedly around 10,000 Japanese tourists visited Jordan. "The only obstacle we face though is the fact that there are no convenient air routes," Arai said.

Akira Arai, who will leave Jordan on Thursday, said his newspaper has no plans to open a permanent newspaper bureau in Jordan, but will send a correspondent with their Prime Minister Toshiki Kaifu, who will visit Jordan shortly.

W. Germany to provide technical aid to Jordan

AMMAN (Petra) — The West German Agency for Technical Cooperation will provide three Jordanian departments with technical assistance and experts as well as equipment to promote their services and provide training for Jordanians, according to three memoranda signed in Amman Monday.

The first provides for the German agency to offer consultancy services to the Jordan Electricity Authority (JEA) and to send experts to help with the installation and work of computers and equipment used in generating power.

Under the second memorandum, the agency will advise the Ministry of Agriculture on afforestation schemes through experts in the field of forest planting

and development of semi arid regions. The agency will provide equipment for training Jordanian personnel to take charge of pasture land and take over once the German specialists have completed their mandate.

The agency, according to the

third memorandum, will provide training to nurses and midwives in Jordan and will provide equipment for the nursing training centres in Jordan to help raise the standard of nursing services and efficiency at health centres and hospitals.

WHAT'S GOING ON

EXHIBITIONS

- ★ Plastic art exhibition by Rudaina and Ruba Haddad at the Housing Bank Complex hall.
- ★ Open studio and workshop for artist Samia Zaru displaying paintings, sculptures and hand-painted fabrics. Location: off 2nd Circle, opposite Rosenthal (9:30-1:30 and 3:30-6:30).
- ★ Exhibition of paintings by Iyad Al Masri at Yarmouk University.

LECTURE

- ★ Lecture entitled "Ethnoarchaeobotanical Fieldwork" by Carl Palmer at ACOR — 7:00 p.m.

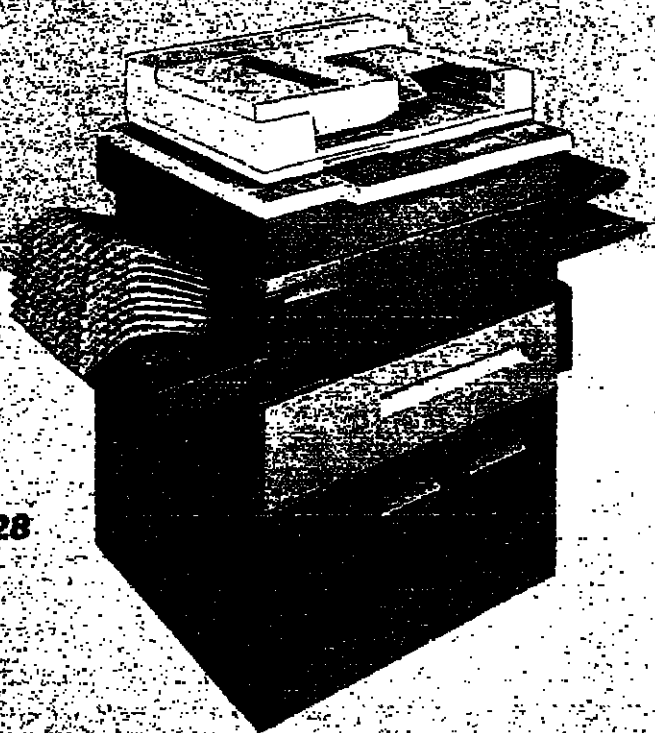
FILM

- ★ German film entitled "Eine Deutsche Revolution" at the Goethe Institute — 8:00 p.m.

Good News

XEROX

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Bad News

...well,
ask
the competition

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Jordan Times

An independent Arab political daily published in English by the Jordan Press Foundation.

Established 1975

جريدة الأردن جريدة عربية سياسية مستقلة تصدر بالانجليزية عن المؤسسة الصحفية الأردنية

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Jordan Times advertising department.

Seamy hostage scene

KIDNAPPING is an old and unlovely occupation. Without going quite as far back as the rape of the Sabine women — or even bull-Zeus and Europa — there is, for example Napoleon's kidnapping on foreign territory of the royalist Duc d'Angoulême, then hauling him back to Paris for judicial murder. "Worse than a crime, a blunder," was how Boulay de la Meurthe (or was it Talleyrand?) described the affair, and Beethoven in disgust, on hearing the news, struck out the dedication to Napoleon he had written for the Eroica symphony.

That was nearly two hundred years ago. Now the practice has become horribly common. The most notorious post-war example was, of course, Israel's kidnapping of Eichmann in Argentina. This was followed by the kidnapping of Mordechai Vanunu, and then the kidnapping in Lebanon of Sheikh Obaid. Naturally, all these were claimed by the Israeli government to be wholly justifiable. Eichmann, a mass murderer if ever there was one, though armed with files rather than guns and knives, only belatedly received the retribution he more than richly deserved. Vanunu, they claimed, was a traitor; the sheikh a fomentor of wars against Israel across the frontier (the comparison with d'Angoulême is very close). Such happenings were not to be put in the same category as the sordid holding of Western hostages by the fanatics of Beirut.

The doctrine that the end justifies the means is one that is always liable to boomerang. State lawlessness encourages practitioners of private lawlessness. The state kidnaps for justice (revenge); the private thugs kidnap for ransom (blackmail).

These considerations have been brought to a head by the recent flurry of excitement created by strong hints that at least one of the 15 Western hostages held in the cellars of Beirut was about to be released. An announcement to this effect was carried by the Iranian news agency IRNA on July 7, and it was thought that the most likely beneficiary would be the Belfast-born lecturer, Brian Keenan, who travels on an Irish passport and has been in captivity for more than four years.

So promising did these reports seem that Ireland's foreign minister flew to Damascus to join the expected ceremony of handing over. But to date this has not taken place. Was it a coincidence that immediately after the Iranians started dropping hints, the Israeli air force carried out massive raids, accompanied by artillery bombardment, of Hizbollah bases in Lebanon in which numerous civilians as well as members of Hizbollah were killed. "Totally unrelated," said an army Israeli spokesman.

Everything that goes on in this part of the world, military, diplomatic, or political, is, as everyone knows, intimately linked. The Western hostages are part of a grizzly bargaining game which includes the 300 Arabs held in the appalling Khilwan prison run by Israel's surrogate South Lebanon Army, the seven Israeli soldiers missing in Lebanon, the Shi'ites held in Kuwaiti jails since 1983, outside governments, public and private welfare intermediaries, and much else. This is a jungle, a minefield; whatever analogy is made, it is part of the underworld of the second half of the 20th century.

In contrast to the lifting of a corner of the curtain covering the seamy hostage scene were a number of simultaneous major set-pieces in the international field — the London NATO and Houston economic conferences and the 28th Congress of the Soviet Communist Party in Moscow, with accompanying noises from Poland, Albania, and elsewhere. Since the end of World War II there has been a continuing struggle to devise a world order which would see an end not merely to wars but to all the other easily identifiable ills of society — poverty, oppression, famine, and so on.

Easily criticisable though such occasions may be, they do at least involve open debates which try, within the severe limits of human fallibility, to deal with the hopes of all who are supposed to be represented at them. As such they are infinitely preferable to the secret world of official and unofficial murder, imprisonment, and torture. Instead of trying to revive the so-called peace process which, as long as Mr. Shamir is in office is clearly going to get nowhere, might it not be better for the United States, the Soviet Union and the European Community to proclaim as their aim the release of all illegally held captives in the Middle East? This is perhaps no more unobtainable than "free market democracy" or an end to drug trafficking, and at least as well worth proclaiming and working for — Middle East International, London.

ARABIC PRESS COMMENTARIES

KING HUSSEIN'S current tour of Iraq and Kuwait in a bid to defuse tension in the Gulf and bring the Iraqi-Kuwaiti dispute to a peaceful end, is discussed by all Arabic dailies Monday. There is no doubt that King Hussein's efforts at this stage will back those of President Mubarak of Egypt and King Fahd Ben Abdul Aziz of Saudi Arabia to help settle the dispute, said Al Ra'i Arabic daily. No matter how chronic the problem is, King Hussein possesses the necessary skill and the strong will to help end the issue, and terminate all differences between Baghdad and Kuwait in a bid to protect solidarity among Arab countries, said the paper. Healing the rift between two Arab states is providing service to the whole Arab Nation; and the King's moves in Baghdad and Kuwait are designed to maintain unified Arab ranks in the face of the common threats and dangers posed to the Arab World, said the paper. It said that Jordan is bound to the Arab states with very strong links, and the King is in a position and possesses sufficient wisdom and tact to deal with this issue. The paper expressed hope that Arab mediation efforts will be crowned with success.

A columnist in Al Ra'i daily Monday tackles the dispute between the management of the Jordan Electric Power Company (JEP- CO) and the company's workers, voicing criticism of the management's behaviour. The company's management has today ignored the workers' rights and disregarded their demands for better pay and improved working conditions, says Fakr al Kawar. He notes that the workers have been demanding a JD 5-JD 22 raise in their monthly wages, compensation due to them before the application of the Social Security Corporation law which came into effect in 1980, and the formation of a committee comprising workers and management representatives to deal with future disputes. The writer says these are all fair demands; and the workers are abiding strictly by the regulations and respecting the law. Kawar urges the company management to listen to the demands and to meet the workers half way, otherwise the workers are bound to carry out their general strike on August 15 as they have already threatened to do with very serious consequences to the country.

Kaifu — the survivor

By Michael Hirsh
The Associated Press

TOKYO — When Toshiki Kaifu was named prime minister last year, he was a career member of parliament given little chance of surviving long in Japan's leading political post.

But Kaifu has proven a surprisingly resourceful leader in his first year in office, exhibiting a talent for statesmanship that — by vastly exceeding expectations — has sent his popularity soaring.

He has left little doubt that he is capable of handling the office, a position coveted by the ruling party's older generation.

In the sedentary politics of Japan, his elders were lined up ahead of him and had every right to it.

But this time there was a difference: the recruit bribery and insider-trading scandal, which tainted nearly all the Liberal Democratic Party elders.

Kaifu, youthful and untouchable, was chosen to fill the position until the scandal died down. The scandal abated, but Kaifu did not behave as expected.

The 59-year-old prime minister has fought off powerful faction leaders who sought to manipulate his cabinet, beat a more glamorous rival in a hard-fought election and won over his Western colleagues with an aggressive performance at the Houston economic summit.

A poll published three weeks before his first anniversary in office Aug. 9, gave his administration a 60 per cent approval rating, the second highest for a Japanese government since World War II.

In April 1989, the height of the influence buying scandal, a survey indicated only 3.9 per cent of the people supported the government of Noboru Takeshita, then prime minister.

That came as a shock to the liberal democrats, who have governed Japan since the party was formed 35 years ago.

Some of the pundits who predicted he would last only a few months now concede that Kaifu, whose motto is "be resolute, and even the devil will run," was the right man for the moment.

"A lot of people thought he was weak," said Hideo Sato, dean of international relations at Tsukuba University. "Such ex-



Toshiki Kaifu

pectations turned out not to be true. That was psychologically very important."

Many Japanese wanted an end to the political old-boy network that was generous in protecting big business at the consumer's expense.

"The whole political scene in the last year has made it clear that the average Japanese citizen is fed up with the old odiferous politics as usual," said Patricia Steinboff, former head of the centre for Japanese studies at the University of Hawaii.

Sato said: "I think people want new leadership not based on factional power. He's not the man-oeuvring type. The Japanese people want a leader to be exercising some sort of leadership, not just reacting to outside pressure and events."

Japan's political bosses are the leaders of four major factions in the Liberal Democratic Party. The main danger to Kaifu's future is the fact that he is wedded to one of two minor factions.

His rivals for future party leadership, such as former Foreign Minister Shintaro Abe and former Finance Minister Kiichi Miyazawa, are heads of powerful factions who have remained visible.

Miyazawa recently led a bipartisan Japanese mission that met with U.S. President George Bush in Washington. The well-travelled Abe will lead a delegation to Moscow in September.

Kaifu could stumble on his promises of reform: revision of an unpopular sales tax, measures to tighten political ethics and change the national election system and opening Japan's markets to more foreign goods.

"I would say that if he continues to have very high popularity ratings... it would be less easy for the LDP to simply elbow him aside," Steinboff said. "It's a question of whether he can sustain it."

Threats against E. German coalition ring hollow

By Mark Heinrich
Reuters

EAST BERLIN — Threats to bring down East Germany's coalition government ring hollow because widespread yearning for German unity leaves little public support for disruptive pre-election tactics, analysts say.

Even if two junior parties dropped out, Premier Lothar de Maiziere could still rule with a simple majority, they say. Any ex-allies boycotting the two-thirds margin needed for a unity treaty with Bonn would be viewed as mischief-makers.

"The Social Democrats (SPD) and liberals have nowhere to go if they ditch the government. Anyone who pulls out would be a unity buster on an issue most people don't give a damn about," a Western diplomatic analyst said.

The issue lacks drama for the average voter but is a prize for politicians — whether East Germany should declare its dissolution into a pan-German federation before or after unity elections on Dec. 2.

Liberals and the SPD want a unification proclamation on Dec. 1. This would shut out small-party rivals from parliament by applying Bonn's rule of a minimum five per cent share of the popular vote to the entire nation.

The Christian Democrats (CDU) of De Maiziere and West German Chancellor Helmut Kohl want it to happen right after the vote. This would require voting under existing divergent rules in East and West, fracturing the left by slipping solely East German parties, including the Communists, into parliament.

De Maiziere says a unity declaration before the election would wipe out East Germany's negotiating identity on a pending political union treaty with Bonn.

The other side argues that only a unified electorate can properly pick a unified government.

The Volkskammer (parliament) on Sunday threw out an SPD-Liberal motion for a unity declaration before the elections.

The CDU and the right-wing allies with prevailed with the curious help of the Communists, relegated to opposition after the 1989 popular uprising against Sta-

linist dictatorship.

Instead, the Volkskammer approved a CDU-drafted compromise to send the issue to the two German parliaments for a solution.

The SPD and Liberal leaders reaffirmed threats to leave the coalition.

"We expect signals of high-minded political compromise from De Maiziere or there will be no more prospects for governing together," SPD party chairman Wolfgang Thierse said on Monday.

What kind of compromise was a mystery. But analysts said the Liberals and SPD's bark was worse than their bite.

If they jumped ship, De Maiziere's CDU could keep governing with a narrow majority of its 163 deputies and 38 others from conservative and farmers party allies.

With legislation already passed to replace communism with market economics, there is little need for a two-thirds majority, aside from approving a political union treaty, analysts say.

"And when that treaty comes up for a vote, only parties willing to be accused of derailing the unification express could afford to oppose it," a West European diplomat said.

With unemployment rocketing in the switchover to a free market, most East Germans have little patience for a political free-for-all complicating economic recovery.

Despite the coalition squabble, East German leaders have little left to say on unification since they ceded economic sovereignty to Bonn on July 1 and Kohl's diplomatic coup on unity's strategic aspects.

Flush with confidence after Kohl coaxed Soviet assent to German unity in NATO without consulting hesitant East Berlin, Bonn has now summarily drafted an all-German constitution virtually identical to the West German basic law.

Bonn expects East Germany to agree to the draft with little fuss. Welding the club of money to quicken the unity pace, it knows most East Germans long for an end to the political uncertainty still deterring Western investors.

Kreisky — statesman who made Austria's voice heard

VIENNA (R) — Former Austrian Chancellor Bruno Kreisky, who died on Sunday at 79 after suffering from heart problems, established Austria's voice in world affairs and himself as a respected statesman.

Kreisky, who served as chancellor for 13 years, will be remembered as the man who coaxed Austria out of its post-war shell and gave it credibility in international affairs.

A doctor of law, Kreisky was credited with having written President Theodor Koerner's 1951 speech proposing that Austria, under four-power occupation after World War II, be given independence on condition that it remain permanently neutral.

He resigned as chancellor on April 24, 1983, at the age of 72 and in deteriorating health, after his Socialist Party failed to win an overall majority in elections.

Kreisky, who had been on regular dialysis treatment towards the end of his chancellorship, had a kidney transplant in 1984. His health rapidly improved and he embarked on a strenuous travel and lecture programme.

Internationally, Kreisky, a non-practising Jew, strove for mutual recognition of the Israeli and Palestinian peoples and was a pioneer of détente in Europe.

Kreisky's common touch, his private telephone number was listed in the Vienna directory, and his incisive Viennese wit and understanding of his countrymen's political instinct endeared him to voters at home.

He made his political reputation as foreign minister in the early 1960s. A life-long socialist, Kreisky first became chancellor in 1970 at the head of a minority government. He boosted his majority in successive elections up to 1979 and pursued a policy of "active neutrality" for Austria.

Turning increasingly to international relations, he travelled the world promoting Vienna as an international centre for the United Nations and a venue for world statesmen.

He became involved in Middle East affairs in the early 1970s and headed three fact-finding missions from the Socialist International seeking a peaceful settlement to the Arab-Israeli conflict.

Kreisky was the first Western leader to receive Palestine Liberation Organisation leader Yasser Arafat, in 1980, and to grant the PLO semi-diplomatic status.

Relations were chilled in 1981 by the murder of a Vienna city councillor with close ties to Israel, a gun-smuggling incident that led to the recall of the PLO representative in Vienna, a bloody bomb attack against Vienna's synagogue, and threats against the chancellor's life by an extremist Palestinian splinter group.

Kreisky's sympathy for the Palestinians and criticisms of Israeli policies strained relations with Tel Aviv. But early in 1983 he launched an Austrian initiative to try to exchange Israeli and PLO prisoners.

An advocate of East-West

co-existence, Kreisky angered the United States by criticising President Ronald Reagan's economic sanctions against the Soviet Union and Poland following Warsaw's 1981 martial law crackdown.

Born in January 22, 1911, the son of a wealthy Jewish textile merchant, Kreisky was arrested after the Nazis overran Austria in 1938. Earlier, his association with the Social Democratic Party landed him in jail in 1935 after the party was officially banned.

In 1938 he escaped to Sweden where he worked as a journalist while studying economics and married his Swedish wife, Vera, in 1942. They had a son and a daughter.

After World War II, Kreisky returned to Austria and joined the diplomatic service. In 1946 he went back to Sweden to reopen Austria's Stockholm legation.

Back in Vienna, he was a member of a Foreign Ministry negotiating team that flew to Moscow in 1955 to conclude the Austrian state treaty ending the country's four-power occupation and establishing its neutral status.

From 1959 he served as foreign minister in coalition governments, until his party went into opposition in 1966.

Kreisky became chairman of the Austrian Social Democrat Party in February, 1967, and helped to win 81 seats in the 1970 general election, the biggest ever representation of social democrats in parliament.

Under Kreisky, Austria pursued economic policies that fended off the worst effects of



Bruno Kreisky

prolonged recession in the 1970s and early 1980s.

Inflation was reduced in 1982 to 5.4 per cent, one of the lowest levels in the world. The balance-of-payments current account showed a surplus for the first time in 10 years and economic growth rates outstripped those of other industrialised countries.

Kreisky remained politically active after his resignation as chancellor. In February, 1986, he criticised sanctions against Libya and said he was convinced that Libyan leader Colonel Muammar Qadhafi was not implicated in the December, 1985, bomb attacks at Vienna and Rome airports in which 19 people were killed.

In January, 1987, he resigned his honorary chairmanship of the Austrian Socialist Party in protest against a coalition pact between the socialists and the Conservative People's Party that gave the foreign ministry to the latter.

A month later he stepped down as vice-president of the Socialist International but was persuaded to withdraw his decision by its president, Willy Brandt.

Trinidad coup leader said to be an ideologist

Reuters

TORONTO — The man behind the taking of Trinidad's prime minister hostage is believed to be a part-time Canadian resident who studied here in the early 1980s and is described by friends as a man committed to social justice.

The Toronto Star reported on Sunday that Yasin Abu Bakr, leader of the Jamaat Al-Muslimeen group, which has been holding Trinidad and Tobago's Prime Minister, A.N.R. Robinson, and several of his cabinet members hostage since Friday night, gave a series of lectures here only six weeks ago.

The newspaper quoted Haroon Salamat, head of the Toronto and Region Islamic Congregation, as saying Bakr had talked about his disenchantment with the Robinson government, but made no

mention of plans for the coup attempt, which resulted in a weekend orgy of burning and looting in Port-of-Spain.

However, he defended Bakr's motives, according to the Star, saying: "If he thought this was necessary he would have done it with the people in mind and not with a view towards personal glory."

According to the Star, Bakr, a nine-year veteran of the Trinidad police force before first coming to Canada, travels back and forth between Port-of-Spain and Toronto frequently.

He is believed to have a son and daughter attending college here. Bakr himself attended Ryerson Polytechnical Institute here, where he studied engineering.

It was at Ryerson that he converted to Islam, he said in a television interview quoted by the

Star. "I would say it (converting to Islam) was the best thing I have done in my life," he told an interviewer.

He worked for a while in the early 1980s for the Canadian Broadcasting Corporation's film production unit before returning to Trinidad where he founded the Jamaat Al-Muslimeen, which means "Group of Muslims" in Arabic.

On his return, he had some swampland in the island's capital reclaimed. On it his group built a large mosque and a complex that included an elementary school, a soup kitchen and a medical centre.

It was during this period, the Star said, that his troubles with the Trinidad authorities began. Critical of what he perceived as the government's ineffectual attempts to halt drug trafficking, he formed his own paramilitary

force to raid the premises of known drug dealers.

Robinson came to power two and a half years ago in the multi-racial nation of 1.3 million people and his government has been trying to evict the Jamaat from the land.

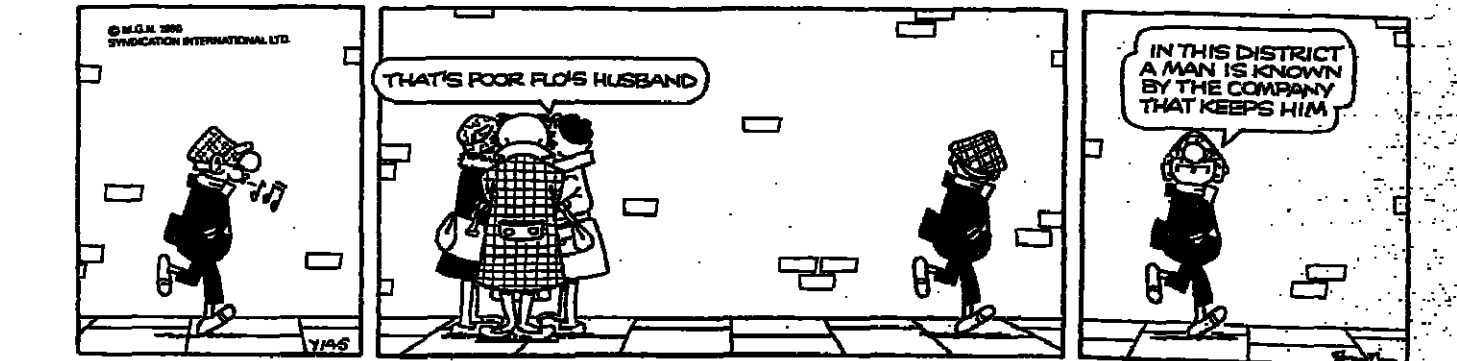
Salamat said he thought the coup attempt must have been "the result of years and years of frustration and government harassment. He must have thought that drastic action was necessary."

The government has said Abu Bakr's group is supported by Libyan leader Muammar Qadhafi. Youssef Muammar, director of La Fondation Internationale Musulmane Du Canada, said from Montreal that the Jamaat Al Muslimeen receives financing aid from Muslims around the world, including contributions from Toronto and Montreal.

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Andy Capp



Peanuts



Iraqi draft constitution released for debate

BAGHDAD (AP) — Government-run newspapers Monday published the text of a draft constitution for public debate after it was endorsed by the ruling Revolutionary Command Council and the National Assembly.

The 179-article constitution would allow a multiparty system and provide greater freedom of expression.

But it would also give more legislative and executive power to the president, and the ruling Baath Party would maintain its dominant role in politics.

The new constitution, to replace the current one adopted in 1970, was drawn up by governing Baath party and the 10-member council headed by President Saddam Hussein.

It was announced to the public for debate in the unions, the professional organisations and the press.

Iraq's estimated eight-million-strong electorate is expected to vote on it in a national referendum to be fixed soon.

The document, which will be broadcast over all the state-owned radio stations, provides the first insight into democratic reforms promised by Hussein following the August 1988 ceasefire.

in the eight year Gulf war with Iran.

The proposed document abolishes the Revolutionary Command Council but gives much of its legislative power to a 50-member consultative chamber, with half of its members to be elected and the other half appointed by the president.

It is widely believed that the new council, which will share legislative power with the National Assembly, will be dominated by senior Baath party members appointed by the president.

The president himself would have extensive executive power and be authorised to issue directives that would have the power of law during emergencies and armed conflicts.

The draft constitution provides that the president should be elected for an eight-year, renewable term.

The election would be by general suffrage. The president would be head of state, commander of the armed forces, prime minister and guarantor of the constitution.

Under the current constitution, the Iraqi president is elected by the Revolutionary Command Council. Hussein was elected in

1979 for an unspecified period.

The president would be empowered to dissolve the two councils and reject their legislation.

The National Assembly has proposed that Hussein be elected for life in the next election, but that proposal was not included in the amendments to the proposed constitution after a one-week debate by the 250-member assembly.

The new constitution would allow the formation of new political parties, but only the ruling Baath party will be allowed to function in the army and the security forces.

The political parties must function openly and not be established on religious, sectarian or racial bases. They are forbidden from receiving any financial aid from foreign sources.

The document also guarantees the right to set up labour unions and clubs and allows more press freedom by letting individuals have their own newspapers and publications.

It also guarantees the right of demonstration and assembly on condition that the demonstrations do not undermine "security and order, and do not infringe on the rights of others."

Israel runs covert 'journalism' operation

NEW YORK (R) — The Israeli foreign ministry has been paying journalists at a Jerusalem radio studio to report its version of the news around the world, the New York Times reported Monday.

The four-year covert operation gave funds to the studio to pay the salaries of journalists who were briefed at the foreign ministry on what they should report, the newspaper said, quoting participants in the operation and officials.

Dozens of radio stations in the United States, Europe, Africa, Asia and Latin America unknowingly broadcast news from the government-guided journalists, described as freelance reporters, the New York Times said.

The ministry developed the operation to counter what it saw as unfair or incomplete reporting of news on the Arab-Israeli conflict, the newspaper said.

The foreign ministry issued a statement in response, confirming its relationship with the journalists and the studio, but denying it paid the reporters, the Times said.

No journalists were "connected in any obligatory fashion, contractual or otherwise, to the foreign ministry or any of its bodies," the statement was quoted by the Times as saying.

The ministry said "until all points were clear," it was suspending its relationship with the studio because of concern some aspects of the current arrangements "might be misconstrued as involving conflict of interest," the newspaper said.

The Times said 12 reporters worked for the project out of a total 60 radio journalists in Israel.

The journalists attended sessions at the ministry as often as once a week and were told what Israel "would like to be the main issue," they received facts, statistics and occasional interviews for the suggested reports, the Times said.

A foreign radio reporter in Tel Aviv who spoke on condition of anonymity said some Israeli broadcast journalists had taken money from the foreign ministry to do stories favourable to Israel that were broadcast as independent news reports.

Among the radio stations receiving the service of the students are two major U.S. networks as well as outlets in Europe, South America, Africa and Asia.

The ministry claimed that it decided to suspend ties with the studio July 18, 10 days before it was asked by the New York Times about the relationship.

Ministry proposes compromise plan to resolve electricity sector labour dispute

By Ghadeer Taher
Jordan Times Staff Writer

AMMAN — The Ministry of Labour Monday tabled a compromise formula to resolve a three-month-old dispute between the Jordan Electric Power Company (JEPCO) and the Electricity Workers' Union which has raised the prospect of a strike if the union's financial and administrative demands are not met.

"We have submitted our perception of a fair solution to the dispute," said Minister of Labour Qassem Obeidat following a two-hour meeting with representatives of JEPCO and the union.

The minister said the proposed formula involved a compromise on salary increases sought by the almost 2,000 workers and an endorsement of demands for administrative reform and other rights of the workers.

The formula provides for setting up a panel of three legal experts — representing the Ministry of Labour, JEPCO and the union — to draw up a legal framework for the company's personnel and salary structure to be submitted to the

board of the directors of JEPCO.

The compromise proposes increases of JD 8 each for employees falling under grades 15 to eight (against JD 12 sought by the union), JD 5 for grades seven to five (against JD 8 demanded by the union) and JD 3 for grades one to four.

The ministry supported a union demand for a straight JD 20 increase for unclassified employees, who now receive JD 54 every month.

Obeidat estimated that the proposed increase would cost the company about JD 30,000 annually.

Another demand of the union is for compensation for workers for the period until they were included in the social security scheme, which provides for pension after retirement. The compensation sought by the union is one month's salary for each year in service of the employee. The ministry decided that this issue be referred to a trilateral committee representing all parties and that the committee's recommendation be presented to the JEPCO board of directors.

The compromise formula is "not binding on the company," Obeidat said. The private sector owns 86.5 per cent of the company's share while the government owns the rest.

The minister said, however, "this is (the ministry's) final position on the dispute. If the compromise formula is rejected then the issue will go to the council of arbitration and then an industrial (tribunal) if arbitration failed."

The union's demands for amendments to regulations governing saving and housing schemes for JEPCO employees will be referred to the administration of the employees' fund for further study, the minister said.

The company's board of directors have until Aug. 5 to respond to the compromise package, and a meeting of the three parties — the company, the union and the ministry — will be held Aug. 6 to review the response of the company as well as that of the union.

The meeting is scheduled to take place nine days ahead of a deadline set by the union for a strike if the workers' demands are not met. Walid Khayyat, the union's president, said following Monday's meeting: "We want to reach an agreement

that will satisfy the demands of the workers before Aug. 15."

The union will study the proposal and its final decision depends on the response of the company's board of directors to the compromise. Khayyat told the Jordan Times. No JEPCO official was immediately available for comment.

In his comments to the Jordan Times, Khayyat underlined the union's argument for urgent salary increases. "More than 1,000 workers get (a monthly) salary of less than JD 100, and more than 600 receive less than JD 150," he said. "The purchasing power of their earnings has been reduced drastically by the devaluation (of the Jordanian dinar) and inflation," he said.

Khayyat accused the company management of disregarding the "acquired rights of the employees," including annual privilege leaves and sick leaves. He also charged that the company had imposed a ceiling on salaries and denied annual increments to many employees.

"These rights have been reduced by the company's management over the past few years," and we want them restored," he said.

Garang says peace prospects look dim

JEDDAH (AP) — The leader of the south Sudan rebel movement, John Garang, was quoted Monday as asserting that he was willing to meet with Khartoum government at any time and place but saw chances of peace as very dim.

In an interview with the Saudi Arabian English-language Arab News, he described an American initiative to resolve the south Sudan conflict presented earlier this year as practically frozen.

He denied knowledge of a specific Egyptian peace initiative, but said Egypt was making moves to arrange a meeting between his Sudan People's Liberation Army (SPLA) and the Khartoum government.

"There are no peace efforts at the moment... instead there's lots of fighting at the war zone," he said.

Garang, who fought against four governments in Khartoum since 1983, was not optimistic about peace prospects with the present government but nonetheless said if there was any beacon of peace he would follow it to the end.

"The possibility of reaching peace with the government of the day in Khartoum is not only weak but difficult because peace is

against its vested interests as it means democracy and general elections," he said.

But he affirmed his own readiness for peace, and said he had no preconditions. "We only have to agree on the time and place... we can meet without an agenda," he said.

Asked if he would respond favourably to a call for talks by the government, Garang answered in the affirmative. "Oh sure, my reply would be positive," The interview was conducted in English.

Questioned how peace could be achieved in Sudan, Garang said it could only be achieved through dialogue.

"It has been proven that war will not solve the problem. The incumbent government promised the people last October that it would either bring peace by year end or destroy the forces of the SPLA. Neither of this has been achieved. This proves the futility of fighting," he said.

He insisted however that any dialogue must be attended by all influential political forces in Sudan including the government, its movement, the political parties and trade unions.

He refused the system of federation proposed by the govern-



John Garang

ment because its content was religious. "It should be based on a democratic constitution not a religious one," he said. The SPLA is a predominantly Christian movement while the Khartoum government is Islamic.

He also dismissed the recommendations of a national dialogue conference in Khartoum last October as insufficient to make a base for a solution. "They are not more than documents which should be discussed with other documents at the national constitutional conference," he said.

Garang claimed that his forces control more than 203,000 square kilometres in the south and said he had set up civil administration in the areas under his control.

Israelis flock to W. Bank in search of cheap housing

OCCUPIED JERUSALEM (R) — Israelis are flocking into the occupied West Bank and Gaza Strip in search of cheap housing because a tidal wave of Soviet Jewish migrants has caused rents to soar in Israel.

"The fact is the population last summer reached 90,000. Now we have more or less 100,000," Benny Katzover, a leading Jewish settler of the occupied territories, said Monday.

An independent survey by the newspaper Haaretz last month forecast 95,000 Jewish settlers would be living in the occupied territories by September.

The figures confirm the suspicions of Arab states and the Palestine Liberation Organisation (PLO) that Palestinians will be displaced by the Jewish influx.

Hundreds of Israelis have taken to the streets in recent weeks accusing the government of displacing them with Soviet Jewish immigrants who receive rent subsidies.

The United States, Israel's closest ally, condemns the settlement of Jews among the 1.75

million Palestinians in the occupied territories as an obstacle to peace.

About 61,000 Soviet newcomers have arrived in Israel this year and 90,000 more are expected by the end of the year.

Prime Minister Yitzhak Shamir's hardline government has promised not to direct Soviet newcomers to the occupied territories but says it would not complain if the wave of newcomers forced others into the area.

In protest at rising rents and the shortage of apartments, Israelis have pitched 30 tent camps, taken over "empty flats" once used by immigrants and climbed the roofs of municipalities threatening suicide.

Katzover told army radio the number of Jews living in the occupied territories would be at least 50 per cent higher if it were not for a growing shortage of apartments there too.

He said Israelis were under-terred by the Palestinian uprising that has raged for 31 months in the occupied territories.

Jordan seeks OIC action

(Continued from page 1)

More than 30 ministers are attending the five-day ministerial meeting at the brand new, Chinese-built conference centre on Cairo's northeastern outskirts. Other OIC members are represented by lesser officials.

"Only through responsible, constructive dialogue can disputes be resolved and Islamic solidarity built," Hamid Al Ghabid, secretary general of the Jeddah-based OIC, told reporters Monday.

The foreign ministers will also discuss how to counter Israeli attempts to reverse a 15-year-old U.N. resolution equating Zionism with racism, Ghabid said.

The four-day meeting "will give first priority" to the Palestinian question and ways to provide support for the anti-Israeli revolt in the occupied territories, he said in a statement.

Ghabid said ministers and delegates will discuss Lebanon, Afghanistan and efforts to make permanent peace between Iraq and Iran.

Another topic on the agenda,

he said, is the status of Muslim minorities in non-Muslim countries, who he said numbered more than 300 million people, a third of the Muslim world.

He called for special efforts to take advantage of changes in Eastern Europe and the Soviet Union to increase contacts with Muslims there.

"We have to... make them benefit from the winds of change which have blown over their countries," the statement said. Ghabid said the meeting would discuss "the question of Muslims in southern Philippines and the plight of the Turkish Muslim minorities in Bulgaria."

The Indian-Pakistani dispute over Kashmir, which he said "gives us cause for concern," was also on the agenda. India and Pakistan fought three wars since independence in 1947, two of which were over Kashmir.

He said Islamic efforts were aimed at staving off the threat of a new subcontinent war but he made clear at the same time that the OIC "supported Pakistan's efforts to find a peaceful solution to this conflict."

Hopes pinned on Jeddah talks

(Continued from page 1)

last Saturday. Saudi officials were trying to ensure that the Jeddah talks would lead to a settlement of all disputed issues, including the border, the sources said.

But Iraq has played down the importance of the Jeddah meeting, saying it was a preliminary session for more substantive negotiations in Baghdad.

Diplomats said thousands of tank-supported Iraqi troops who moved to the frontier area to exert additional pressure ahead of the OPEC meeting in Geneva had yet to withdraw.

Kuwait, followed by other Gulf Arab states, would eventually bow to Iraqi demands that they write off about \$30 billion of interest-free loans extended to Baghdad during the Gulf war, they said.

Baghdad sees the loans as payment for preventing the conflict spilling over into other Arab states.

Iraq also badly needs port facilities to boost oil exports and trade and has a long-standing claim to Kuwait's Bubiyan and

Warba Islands at the entrance of Khor Abdallah — a waterway it is trying to develop as an alternative to Shatt Al Arab which is bordered by Iran and is now Iraq's major outlet to the sea.

The diplomats said Iraq might be satisfied with a compromise agreement to lease the two islands but would want to keep its options open on other issues as a future bargaining chip.

He said Kuwait was unlikely to give up territory "but will give them some form of financial reparations which will defuse the situation for the time being."

Diplomats said Kuwait had offered Baghdad \$1 billion so far in response to its claims for \$2.4 billion.

Kuwait was also unlikely to pay the exact amounts demanded by Iraq because it would be seen as a passive admission of guilt, diplomats said.

The money would probably be paid into a reconstruction fund, rather than directly.

Diplomats say Iraq wants its Gulf neighbours to set up a fund of \$4 to \$10 billion similar to U.S. Marshall plan that helped Europe rebuild after World War II.

Hrawi imposes blockade

(Continued from page 1)

authority of the Hrawi government to all Lebanon.

The spokesman, Jibril Kourieb, spoke after the blockade was announced, and after Assad met with a Lebanese delegation, including Elias Khazen, interior minister in the Hrawi government.

The U.S. ambassador to Syria, Edward Djerejian, told a news conference that Syria and the United States were in agreement on Lebanon.

"The Syrian government had conveyed to us that they agree with the U.S. policy for Lebanon" which includes support for an Arab League-sponsored reform and reunification programme for Lebanon and for Hrawi's government, Djerejian said.

He said the United States expected Syria to abide by the Arab League pact "and to help the Lebanese government restore its sovereignty and independence, working closely with the Hrawi government," he said.

The Syrians have 40,000 troops

controlling 70 per cent of Lebanon's territory under a 1976 Arab League mandate to snuff out the civil war. They ring the 800-square-kilometre Christian enclave.

The Christian enclave Aoun formerly controlled is now carved up between his troops and Samir Geagea's Lebanese Forces (LF) militia.

Hrawi's soldiers did not block fuel supplies to districts controlled by the LF, which has accepted the president and the peace plan. Many motorists drove from Aoun-controlled to militia-held areas to fill their tanks.

Political sources said unless the Christian militia joined the blockade, its effect would be much limited especially after Aoun ordered crossing-points to LF areas opened 24 hours a day.

"I don't know what will happen but the LF has no new orders to ban fuel or commodities moving into Aoun's areas. The blockade was ordered by the Hrawi government and we are not employed by the Hrawi government," said an LF spokeswoman.

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GOODWILL GAMES

Yugoslavia takes basketball gold

SEATTLE, Washington (R) — Yugoslavia overcame injury and foul trouble to defeat the United States 85-79 for the gold medal in basketball at the Goodwill Games.

Led by the multi-talented Toni Kukoc, Yugoslavia served notice that they were the team to beat at next month's World Championship in Argentina.

Despite losing forward Zarko Paspalj to an ankle injury early in the first half, and doing without foul-troubled centre Dino Radja for most of the second half, Yugoslavia fought off every U.S. challenge to silence a crowd of more than 13,000 at the Seattle Centre.

Earlier, the Soviet Union, semifinal losers to Yugoslavia, won the bronze medal by beating Brazil 109-103 in a three-point shootout. Valeri Tikhonenko led the winners with 30 points, while the great Oscar Schmidt tallied 44 for Brazil.

With the Yugoslav frontcourt in disarray, Kukoc, a gangly 2.07-metre forward, and sturdy guard Jurij Zdovc rose to the occasion to build on their 34-31 halftime lead.

Kukoc, demonstrating great court sense, dissected the U.S. defence with piercing passes and when big points were needed he stepped up and took the crucial shot.

Kukoc scored 17 points with 10 assists. Zdovc, often the beneficiary of Kukoc's floor length passes or no-look assists under the basket, shot a remarkable 9-10 and scored 21 points.

"It was one tough game, from the first second to the last second of the game," Yugoslav coach Dusan Ivkovic said. "Our players played with a big heart."

The young U.S. team tried time and again to get the ball inside and the strategy paid off as several Yugoslav players got into foul trouble.

But the Americans failed to take advantage from the free throw line, missing 11 shots from the charity stripe to go with a poor 38 per cent success rate from the floor.

Gymnastics

Meanwhile, Soviet newcomer Natalia Kalinina upstaged world

champion Svetlana Boginskaya once again, winning two gold and two silver medals at the individual gymnastics finals at the Goodwill Games Sunday.

Kalinina won gold on the balance beam, and tied Boginskaya for first in the floor exercise. Kalinina, a 16-year-old from the Ukraine, took silver medals in the remaining events, the vault and the uneven bars.

Fourteen-year-old Zhang Xia of China prevented a Soviet sweep of the golds by winning the uneven bars. The Chinese also picked up a silver medal when 14-year-old Zhang Wenning finished behind Kalinina on the beam.

Soviet Oksana Chusovitina, 15, the 1990 world junior champion, won the gold in the vault as the Soviets nearly matched the golden sweep by their male competitors.

Kalinina, a 1.42-metre, 30.84-kilogramme dynamo who earned a perfect 10 on the floor exercise in Saturday's all-around event, was coy when asked if she had exceeded her goals.

"I really didn't have any specific expectations," Kalinina said through an interpreter. "I just wanted to get through my programmes without a fall and without any mistakes."

Boginskaya, the 1989 all-around world champion and a member of the Soviet gold medal team at the 1988 Olympics, earned a bronze on the beam to go with her shared gold.

On Saturday Kalinina edged Boginskaya — at 17 the veteran of the Soviet squad — for the gold in the all-around competition.

Boginskaya dismissed questions about retiring, but did say that once she quits gymnastics she "would like to get into some kind of dance career."

Romanian Gina Gogean, at 13 the youngest gymnast in the competition, claimed a bronze on the vault.

American Kim Zmeskal, who withdrew from Sunday's vault competition to avoid aggravating tendonitis in her left wrist, won bronze medals on the uneven bars and for her floor routine.

Federation Cup stays in U.S.

MORCROSS, Georgia (AP) — Marty Riessen thought about breaking up his doubles combination, but he didn't.

His decision proved to be the right one as Gigi Fernandez and Zina Garrison dispatched the world's no. 2 doubles team in straight sets as the United States retained the Federation Cup with a 2-1 victory Sunday over the Soviet Union.

"When Zina regrouped in the third set and started fighting back was when I decided to go with her," Riessen, coach of the U.S. team, said. "I wanted to stick with the team that had already played one pressure match."

Garrison, the Wimbledon runner-up who was playing No. 1 singles in the competition, was the only American to lose in this event, the women's version of the men's Davis Cup competition.

Garrison, ranked no. 5 in the world, lost a singles match against Czechoslovakia in the quarterfinals and fell to Soviet star Natalia Zvereva Sunday, forcing the U.S.

team to win doubles to retain the cup it has claimed in 14 of the 28 international tournaments.

Fernandez and Garrison had no trouble in downing Zvereva and Larisa Savchenko 6-4, 6-3 before a partisan crowd chanting "U.S.A., U.S.A." at the Peachtree World of Tennis on the outskirts of Atlanta.

Jennifer Capriati, who has become a premier attraction on the women's circuit since turning pro in March, won the first match of the day, downing Leila Meskhi 7-6 (7-3), 6-4.

"I really like the idea of playing for your country," Capriati said after winning all five of her matches in her first Federation Cup appearance.

Garrison said she lost her concentration during her singles loss.

"I went through a period where I didn't hit any balls over the net," she said.

"She's the weirdest player," Garrison said of Zvereva. "She's just there. She just keeps nagging and nagging you. I just got really

flat."

"She was a little scared or something," Zvereva said of Garrison. "She wasn't quite hitting her usual shots."

Oлга Morozova, the Soviet's non-playing team captain, said the heat and humidity got to her team, but that she was pleased with their performance.

The USSR, seeded fourth, reach the final with an upset of Spain Saturday. In its only other title match in the event the Soviets lost to Czechoslovakia two years ago.

Garrison said Fernandez had told her before the singles match not to worry about it because the two of them were going to win the doubles match, anyway.

"The most important thing Gigi told me was that we beat them before," Garrison said. Indonesia won the consolation title 2-1 over Hungary, winning both singles matches. Suzanna Wibowo beat Reka Szikszay 6-3, 6-1 and Yayuk Basuki beat Andrea Temesvari 6-3, 7-6 (7-5).

Lewis fails in bid for relay world record

NEW YORK (R) — Carl Lewis took on company in a chase for another world record Sunday, but his team's run at the 4x100 relay record failed at the New York Games track and field meet.

The anchor burst of the 100-metre world record holder Lewis has strong enough to pull away from Tony Dees of the Florida Clippers team to provide his Santa Monica team with the victory, but the clocking of 38.18 seconds fell far short of the world best time of 37.83 set by the 1984 U.S. Olympic team and the \$50,000 bonus put up by meet organisers.

"I felt my left leg tightened up a little and cramp a little bit at 50 metres but I still thought we had a shot," said Lewis, who was a member of the 1984 world record quartet. "I was a little disappointed I wasn't able to bring it in for the team."

Mark Witherspoon led off the team, with Leroy Burrell second, followed by Floyd Heard.

However, Lewis had run true to form earlier as the meet headliner, as the six-time Olympic gold medalist did not disappoint the Columbia University Wien Stadium crowd of 12,279 by racing back onto the winning track with a 100-metre winning outing of 10.39 seconds.

While Lewis did not have to contend with Burrell on the starting line, he did have to battle a strong 25 mile-per-hour headwind.

After Cuban Andres Simon got out first, Lewis sped into the lead at the halfway mark and easily held off fellow American Mike Marsh.

American Greg Foster gained the lead around the midway hurdle to clip the wire in 13.40 seconds to beat Renaldo Nehemiah and a talent studded 110-metre hurdles field including world record holder Roger Kingdom.

Foster had been ranked among the world's top 10 from 1977-87, but was slowed the last two seasons with a broken arm and a three-month illegal substance suspension earlier this year by his country's federation.

"I have to say I'm surprised," Foster said. "Everyone was ready for this race, at least that's what they said. I'm 32 years old and I'm staying within myself and running more relaxed and running with less pressure."

Nehemiah, the world's top hurdler from 1978-81, finished in 13:54 while last week's Goodwill Games silver medalist Dees was third in 13:59.

Last week, in his first effort since being sidelined with a strained hamstring earlier in the month, Kingdom had won the Goodwill Games gold. On this outing he was a distant fourth in 13:60.

"Grog has been consistent over the last five or six years and you know when he's in a race," Kingdom said.

No-one has been more consistent at her distances in the last three years than Cuban Ana Quirot. Taking the lead from the start she raced away from the field for her 35th consecutive win with an 800-metre victory of 1:58.24.

Senna takes easy route to victory

HOCKENHEIM, West Germany (Agencies) — To hear Ayrton Senna describe it, he was just out for a drive in the country.

"I took my time and got some fresh air," the Brazilian said of his Sunday ride through the forests of West Germany near Hockenheim. "I decided to think about it and refresh the tires."

So Senna ducked into his pit, gave up the lead and came out two seconds behind Alessandro Nannini with less than 15 laps to go in the West German Grand Prix. Senna passed Nannini with 11 laps to go and pulled away to win for the third year in a row.

The victory put Senna in first place in the Formula One season standings with 48 points. Alain Prost of France, who finished fourth in the race, is next with 44 points.

Senna, driving a McLaren-Honda, had the pole position but gave up the lead after a tire change on the 18th lap of the 45-lap race. Nannini, of Italy, held Senna off for 15 laps. But Senna finally passed Nannini's Benetton-Ford on the long straightaway on the 4.22-mile (6.75-kilometre) circuit and won by 6.52 seconds.

Nannini was second while Senna's teammate, Gerhard Berger of Austria, was third.

Prost, in a Ferrari, had won the last three races of the Grand Prix season but was never in contention. He ended up more than 40 seconds behind.

Riccardo Patrese of Italy finished fifth and Thierry Boutsen of Belgium, sixth.

Senna took the lead at the start and built up a 1.5-second advantage over Berger after 15 laps when the leaders started changing tires.

"It was a question of the pace at the beginning of the race and how hard we would have to push," Senna said. "I heard that Prost and Gerhard came in so I decided to come in too."

Nannini, sixth after 14 laps, suddenly found himself on top after 18 laps as he tried to make it without a tire change.

"The plan worked perfectly when I took the lead after the McLaren and Ferraris made their pit stops," Nannini said.

Senna came out of the pits in second and was never more than

two seconds back as he bided his time.

"After I came out of the pits, he just passed me," Senna said. "Then I had some difficulty with the pressure so I decided to back off a bit."

The 1988 world champion then made his decisive move on the backstraight of the 34th lap.

"I knew he didn't stop for tires so he would have some trouble with the grip later," Senna said. "So on the straight I got a good tow and overtook him."

"I held him off for more than 10 laps," Nannini said. "But he was a half-second faster in the straight and he was able to pass me. But I held second and that's OK."

Nannini's excellent second place for Benetton in the West German Grand Prix signals the arrival of a serious new challenge to the established Formula One powers of McLaren and Ferrari.

It was Nannini's best result since winning last year's controversial Japanese Grand Prix at Suzuka, where Senna was disqualified.

"This is just what Sandro needed after his accident in qualifying Friday and I am sure it will have given him all his confidence back," said Benetton team manager Gordon Meehan.

Alessandro Benetton, son of team owner Luciano Benetton, commented: "It was a solid and well-controlled result for the team. Nelson Piquet had had luck today or he might have finished in the points too." Piquet retired mid-race with a smoking engine.

Benetton added: "We have kept moving forward and the next step is to win a couple of races now. This result shows we are in a position to do it."

Benetton's progress appears due to three significant factors — the recruiting of designer John Barnard who has helped produce race-winning cars for McLaren and Ferrari; the resurgence of three-time champion Piquet in his first year with the team; and the introduction of Ford's latest Cosworth-engineered Series-Four engine.

The engine has had the most notable effect on the team's performances in the last two Grands Prix and Benetton are now genuine contenders to win races.

Chang wins Canadian Open

TORONTO (R) — Michael Chang won his first tournament title of 1990 with a 4-6, 6-3, 7-6 (7-3) win over Jay Berger Sunday at the \$1.2 million Canadian Open Tennis Championships.

The 24th-ranked Chang's \$155,000 winner's cheque puts him in the \$1 million club for career prize money.

"It feels good," said the 18-year-old Chang, who should venture back into the top 10 with his win. "I think my first priority as far as tennis is concerned is not making money. My priority is to be the best in the world — the best I can be."

The problem with the Berger-Chang combination appeared to be that neither player wanted to lose — but neither one seemed anxious to win.

The proof was in the two hours and 50 minutes it took to stage their centre-court performance in brutal 104-degree (F) temperatures.

The difference between the fourth-seeded Berger and the seventh-seeded Chang was minimal.

"He played better than me in just a tiebreaker today," said the 15th-ranked Berger, who takes home \$81,620.

Each game — indeed each point — between the two amounted to a marathon. In the time it took them to finish a single game other players could have played an entire set.

There were 12 service breaks in the match and an unbelievable 35 break opportunities overall. In the third set there were six breaks in 12 games. Even the tiebreaker had six mini-breaks in 10 points played.

Chang and Berger are both retrievers — willing to run any which way to recover the ball. Both will venture to the net when necessary, but it is Berger who tends to frequent the volley zone.

In the third set, Chang had a chance to go ahead 4-1 when he had four break points on Berger's serve. But the tenacious Berger held serve. After two more breaks and both players holding, it was tiebreak time.

GOREN BRIDGE

WITH OMAR SHARIF

YANNAI HIRSCH

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THE WORLD OF DIFFERENCE

Both vulnerable. West deals.

NORTH

♠ A 7 4

♥ K 10 7 6 5

♦ J

♣ K 10 8 6

WEST

♠ 9

♥ A J 3

♦ K Q 10 9 6 5 4

♣ J 5

EAST

♠ Q J 6 5 2

♥ Q 9 4 2

♦ 7

♣ 9 3

SOUTH

♠ K 10 8 3

♥ 8

♦ A 8 3

♣ A Q 7 4 2

The bidding:

West North East South

1 ♦ Dbl 1 ♥ Dbl

1 ♠ Pass 2 ♠ Dbl

3 ♦ 3 ♥ Pass 3 ♠

Pass 4 ♠ Dbl Rdbl

Pass Pass Pass

Opening lead: King of ♠

Strange are the ways of bridge experts. This auction occurred in the World Team Championship. The only bids that make any sense are West's opening bid, North's, and South's doubles and West's three diamonds. In between, there was a lot of obfuscating going on.

North's double and South's first double (by partnership agreement) were both for takeout. Thereafter, East and West elected to bid the

suits they didn't have rather than the ones they did. It is interesting to note that the one suit in which game is sure and slam a possibility — clubs — was never mentioned during the auction.

Declarer won the opening lead in hand and immediately led a heart. West rose with the ace and shifted to the jack of clubs. Since it was obvious East held the long trumps, declarer won the club in dummy and led a low spade. Since he could afford to lose two spade tricks and still make his contract, it would seem his best chance was to play East for both missing honors and, when East followed low, put in the ten. However, declarer chose to finessse the eight. That lost to West's nine and declarer eventually went down two tricks, conceding 1,000 points.

The contract would have succeeded had declarer inserted the ten of trumps. When that wins, declarer's king of hearts, discarding a club from hand, then ruffs a heart in hand. A club to the ten provides the entry for another heart ruff and declarer can ruff a diamond with the ace and still score the king of trumps to fulfill his contract.

HOROSCOPE

FORECAST FOR TUESDAY JULY 31, 1990

By Thomas S. Plerson, Astrologer, Carroll Righter Foundation

GENERAL TENDENCIES: You are apt to encounter a considerable amount of delay in putting across anything that really means a lot to you — but then everything seems to take a plunge forward if you're openminded.

ARIES (March 21 to April 19) This is the day when you are loaded with all kinds of good inspirations for making quick and lasting headway in the future by your own efforts.

Taurus (April 20 to May 20) At last you see a plan of action that can improve and make conditions at your residence as you wish them to be for sometime to come.

GEMINI (May 21 to June 21) A day to use as many hours as are available in communication with relatives, neighbours and close companions who are near at hand.

MOON CHILDREN (June 22 to July 21) This is a day when you will have many good ideas for adding to your abundance so make a notation so you won't forget them.

LEO (July 22 to August 21) From early morning today your judgment is exceptionally accurate and you would now be wise to make those personal plans that appeal to you for the future.

VIRGO (August 22 to September 22) Retire pretty much within yourself and with whatever is available to you that will show you how

you can express your private abilities much more satisfactorily.

LIBRA (September 23 to October 22) Gain the good will of those you wish to be lifelong friends by doing the things that will bind them to you and then go after personal goals.

SCORPIO (October 23 to November 21) This is the day to try to get out as much as possible and see and be with as many worldly persons or public events as possible this will bring you benefits.

SAGITTARIUS (November 22 to December 21) This is your day to be off and away to new persons and to new pursuits for in them now rests that advancement you can make to extend your horizons.

CAPRICORN (December 22 to January 20) A day to consider all phases of whatever promises you have made or campaign you wish to put in motion for your decisions will be just right.

AQUARIUS (January 21 to February 19) Put aside your love for the unconventional now and approach the most conservative men for whatever assistance of a worldly nature that you seek.

PISCES (February 20 to March 20) Now is the day to get busy and make your surroundings exactly as you would like them to be and add comfort, charm, beauty, utility where necessary.

THE BETTER HALF.

By Harris



"It's decaffeinated...but I guess you figured that out."

JUMBLE.

By Henri Arnold and Bob Lee

Unscramble these four Jumbles, one letter to each square, to form four ordinary words.

RETIG

AFTEC

TINBAD

CROSCH

Now arrange the circled letters to form the surprise answer, as suggested by the above cartoon.

Print answer here: _____

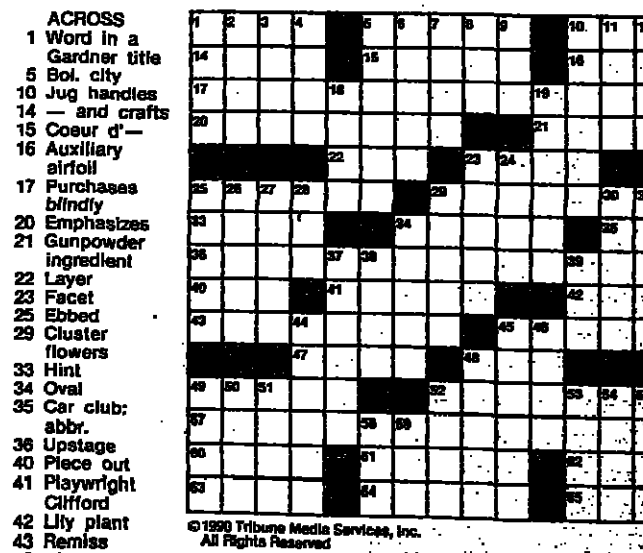
(Answers tomorrow)

Saturday's Jumbles: TROTH RODEO GASKET DAINITY

Answer: What you have to face if you expect to learn how to drive safely—AHEAD

THE Daily Crossword

by Harold B. Counts



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Yesterday's Puzzle Solved:

ACROSS: 1. Word in a Gardner title

2. In a word, a word

3. A word, a word

4. A word, a word

5. A word, a word

6. A word, a word

7. A word, a word

8. A word, a word

9. A word, a word

10. A word, a word

11. A word, a word

12. A word, a word

13. A word, a word

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15. A word, a word

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23. A word, a word

24. A word, a word

25. A word, a

Paris nervous after Tuffier fall

By Denis Thomas
Reuters

PARIS — Big layoffs have hit finance houses in London and New York in recent years and now many industry experts fear Paris may be next.

"The spectre of redundancy is starting to haunt the Paris financial markets," said one broker.

The high cost of introducing new technology and falling revenue after the abolition of fixed commissions last year have helped to make France's money men nervous.

Industry analysts believe the 5,900 staff currently employed by Paris's 44 brokerage houses could be cut by between 20 and 40 per cent by the end of the year. They estimate that no more than half a dozen brokers are turning a profit.

After stockbrokers Tuffier-Raviera filed for bankruptcy in mid-July, Paris was on tenterhooks.

Brokers Meunier-de la Fourniere & Cie, one of Paris's biggest bond traders, drew attention to itself on July 26 when top executive Nicolas Meunier said he had that day met Regis Rousselet, chairman of the Societe des Bourses Francaises (SBF) Bourse Executive Body, to discuss "general problems."

Although Meunier said the problems were not as serious as those experienced by some of the company's rivals, sources at the brokerage said daily business had fallen to between a fifth and tenth of levels enjoyed in the past.

They said the brokers, which had 90 million francs (\$16.5 million) of turnover in 1988, saw losses of seven to eight million francs (\$1.3-1.5 million) in the first half of 1990 and layoffs among the 100 or so staff were expected.

Meunier told Reuters he was by no means the only brokerage executive to visit Rousselet recently in search of reassurance, but he said the situation was not yet serious enough for the SBF to recommend the companies concerned file for bankruptcy.

On July 27, the chairman of Meeschaert-Rousselle, one of France's largest brokers, said the company expected to be in deficit in the first six months of this year after losing 78.5 million francs (\$14 million) in 1989.

Chairman Gerard de la Martiniere told Reuters it was too early to say whether the brokerage, which has already cut its staff from 334 in January 1989 to 190 now, would be laying off more employees.

The comments by Meunier, and de la Martiniere merely served to reinforce analysts' convictions that last year's abolition of fixed commissions and the high cost of introducing the computerised settlements and deliveries system, Relit, was starting to have a serious financial impact.

U.S.-Israeli economic talks open amid deepening problems

TEL AVIV (Agencies) — A delegation from the United States, Israel's vital aid donor, opened talks with officials Monday about Israel's deepening economic problems.

The half-yearly meeting of the U.S.-Israel Joint Economic Development Group took place while Israel searched for ways to pay for a flood of Soviet Jewish immigration that is expected to bring in 150,000 people this year.

Ariel Sharon, the housing minister in Israel's new rightwing government asked the cabinet Sunday to approve a five-year housing plan.

Finance Minister Yitzhak Mordechai and already proposed raising this year's \$32 billion budget by \$1.25 billion for extra housing — most of it to be financed by increasing the size of the budget deficit. He said the country could not afford Sharon's scheme.

The finance ministry said the economic implications of the immigration would dominate the talks, which involved some academics as well as government representatives.

While emphasizing that the delegation can make no decisions, the U.S. embassy said factors such as the future of Washington's \$3 billion in annual aid were bound to be raised.

The U.S. group, headed by Under-Secretary of State Richard

McCormack, planned to meet Mordechai and Prime Minister Yitzhak Shamir Thursday.

"The United States has a very important role in the Israeli economy and it is very important to continue to have the support of the United States if we want stability in the economy," said Moshe Nahum of the Israeli Manufacturers Association.

"It is a very sensitive period, a very difficult period for the overall economy," said Nahum, whose organisation will address the U.S.-Israeli meeting.

Israel's need for additional funds coincides with U.S. efforts to reduce its own budget deficit. The \$1.2 billion in annual economic grants and \$1.8 billion in military grants to Israel has already come under question in Congress.

Israel also wants Washington to guarantee \$400 million in housing loans, which would reduce Israeli interest costs. The White House has demanded Israel provide as yet unspecified guarantees that the funds would not be used to settle Jews in occupied Arab land.

Modai is looking for the private sector to take a major role in providing for the immigrants, while Sharon believes the government should take charge.

The economic problems could make Israel more vulnerable to

U.S. pressure to make concessions to revive chances for Israeli-Palestinian peace talks.

Foreign minister David Levy is due in Washington on August 9 for talks with U.S. Secretary of State James Baker and diplomats said the subject of U.S. financial assistance was certain to arise.

The housing plan for an estimated one million immigrants that reportedly would cost \$13.5 billion over the next five years.

The cabinet held a five-hour, "all-embracing" debate on the programme but made no decision and scheduled further deliberations for a special meeting Thursday, the office of cabinet Secretary Elyakim Rubinstein said.

The crash for housing has pushed up rents and caused a housing shortage, creating a potentially explosive ethnic and social situation.

Scores of young Israeli families, most of them disadvantaged Sephardi Jews from Middle Eastern countries, have been forced out of rental apartments. Many have settled in a growing number of "tent cities" throughout Israel.

According to Sharon's plan, details of which have been widely reported in the Israeli media, the country will need 550,000 new housing units in the next five years for Israeli families and an estimated one million immigrants.

OPEC accord would not hit yen or fuel inflation — analysts

By Masaru Sato
Reuters

TOKYO — The Organisation of Petroleum Exporting Countries (OPEC) decision to raise its target price for crude oil to \$21 a barrel is unlikely to undermine the yen or fuel inflation in Japan, the world's second-largest oil importer, economists say.

In the past, price rises have often boosted the U.S. dollar against the yen, since most oil contracts are denominated in the U.S. currency and higher prices can increase demand for dollars.

A weaker yen would raise the prices of imports into Japan and threaten to accelerate inflation, which was 2.9 per cent in the year to March 31.

But the currency market's perceptions that U.S. economic growth is slowing are likely to keep sentiment towards the dollar bearish and limit its gains against the yen, the economists say.

The dollar closed lower in Tokyo Monday at 148.60 yen against 149.00 in New York Friday, when oil ministers of the Organisation of Petroleum Exporting Countries agreed to raise the group's price target by \$3 per barrel.

"The yen could be vulnerable to OPEC's attempt to drive up oil prices, but a sharp fall against the dollar is not realistic now," said Masaaki Tanahashi, an economist at Mitsui Taiyo Kobe bank.

He added that the yen could fall against some European currencies. But other analysts said the falls might be limited because countries such as West Germany, Italy and France were also large importers of OPEC oil.

"Even if OPEC manages to raise prices to \$21 a barrel and oil firms pass the cost on to consumers, it will only raise gasoline prices by three yen per litre," said Tsutomu Toichi, chief economist at the Institute of Energy Economics.

Japanese gasoline prices are currently around 125 yen

(\$0.83) a litre. Japanese utility companies are not likely to raise their fees right away because they need approval from the government before they can boost prices, Toichi added.

Analysts also said steeper oil prices were not likely to worsen the already gloomy sentiment on the Tokyo stock market. The Nikkei index has fallen 7.9 per cent since July 19 on fears of rising domestic interest rates.

"Higher oil prices are a negative factor for the market, as they trigger inflationary worries, but the OPEC agreement generally fell within market expectations and shouldn't be as much of a factor as domestic interest rates," said Yozo Asai, a market analyst at Yamaichi Securities Company.

Some analysts said the OPEC agreement could prompt the Bank of Japan to raise its discount rate by the end of the year to make sure that inflation did not rise.

Only a global credit ban would hurt South Africa

WASHINGTON (AP) — Only a worldwide ban on credits for imports would badly hurt South Africa, the U.S. General Accounting Office (GAO) has said.

"The effect on South Africa of a unilateral U.S. ban would be limited, though it might reduce the volume and value of U.S. exports to South Africa," according to the report.

U.S. law already provides sanctions against South Africa because of its race policies. The agency, which monitors

U.S. policy for Congress, went on to say that after a while South Africa could find other sources it might need to replace imports from this country. U.S. exporters could also get around the ban in several ways, it added.

It pointed out that they could get credits through foreign banks, go into joint ventures with manufacturers in other countries, or deal directly with South African purchasers and bypass outside credit as they have in the past.

"With restricted access to such credit worldwide, the South African economy could be severely injured by the necessity to pay cash or barter for its imports," the report said.

"To generate the cash, South Africa would be required to reduce imports and increase exports. Reducing imports could reduce economic growth."

The U.S. government's Export-Import Bank does not give short-term trade credit for sales to South Africa, nor do similar agencies in Canada, Australia and New Zealand, the report said. But those in 10 other countries do, including Japan — South Africa's biggest Asian trading partner — Taiwan, West Germany, Britain, France and Italy.

For longer term debt, the report called South Africa's newest arrangement with banks, which takes effect this year, particularly favourable to South Africa. It smooths out payments until 1993. But new financing is a different story.

"International banks and investors are reluctant to make medium- and long term loans to and investments in South Africa, even with the improved political climate there," the report said.

"They are waiting to see what, if any changes are made in the political system and what effect they will have on the business climate. Even if there were a rapid change to a post-apartheid government, the holders of international capital would wait to assess the political stability of the new government and its economic policy."

SALE... SALE...

the Golden Italian shoes
(Salamander)

Jabal Amman, end of the Rainbow Street
near Rainbow Sweets

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Doe's troops massacre 200 civilians in church compound

MONROVIA, Liberia (AP) — Government soldiers early Monday killed more than 200 people, most of them women and children, in a church refugee camp in the embattled capital, witnesses said.

"I saw dead bodies all around," a witness said on condition of anonymity. "This is genocide."

Most of the refugees were members of the Gio and Mano tribes who have formed the main support for the rebel armies that have fought their way to the base of the hill where president Samuel Doe is holding out in his heavily fortified executive mansion. Most of Doe's troops are from his Krahn tribe and their allies, the Mandingos.

Soldiers broke into the Lutheran Church compound in the Sinkor district at about 2 a.m. (0200 GMT) while the camp residents were sleeping, the witness said.

On Monday, the church was strewn with the bodies of women whose heads had been smashed or blown to pieces by bullets, babies still tied to their backs. Other bodies hung out of the church windows — they

apparently were killed while trying to escape, he said. There was no telephone or walkie-talkie in the compound to allow the victims to call for help, he said.

Refugees at a Methodist Church across the street fled when they heard the killing. Thousands of refugees fleeing the civil war are crowded into refugee camps in the area.

The refugees in the church compound were among those fleeing the street battles in Monrovia.

Thousands of members of the Krahn and Mandingo tribes also are fleeing into neighbouring countries after reports that the rebels had executed hundreds of them, some in cross-border attacks into refugee camps in Guinea.

European Community (EC) ambassadors last week warned that this West African country founded in 1847 by freed American slaves was slipping into anarchy and was on the brink of "national suicide."

The ambassadors of France, West Germany, Belgium, Spain and Italy called for an emergency

session of the U.N. Security Council to deal with the Liberian civil war.

The rebels, who began their offensive in December, accuse the government of corruption and human rights abuses and demand Doe's resignation.

On Sunday night, a rebel gunboat fired four shots at Doe's executive mansion, the latest of several such raids.

Meanwhile, rival rebel leaders converging on Doe's holdout from different directions each claim imminent victory and discount the significance of the other.

Prince Johnson Sunday said his forces, which had closed to within one mile of the heavily fortified hilltop estate, were poised to seize Doe and prevent rival Charles Taylor from becoming president.

Taylor, whose National Patriotic Front forces have been blocked for several weeks in the suburb of Paynesville, 10 kilometres from Monrovia, has declared the dissolution of Doe's government and said Johnson's importance has been exaggerated by the news media.

Johnson said Sunday in his first meeting with foreign correspondents that he, not the more visible Taylor, is leading the main rebel attack.

He accused Taylor, a former Doe aide, of being a Libyan-backed and trained socialist, and a criminal who had broken out of jail in the United States.

Taylor in the early 1980s was charged with embezzling \$1 million from Liberia's General Services Administration. He was arrested in the United States and escaped jail while awaiting extradition.

"He is not going to come here now and make himself president," Johnson told reporters. "I will meet Taylor after Doe is overthrown. I don't want power, I want a fair election. Taylor will manipulate the election."

Johnson said he would install a civilian government. He refused to say who would lead it, however, citing "security reasons."

"I will get Doe. He is not going to get away," he said. He said he had a force of 7,000 men, 4,000 of them deserters from Doe's army. Taylor's army is believed to be 5,000 strong.

Car bomb kills U.K. politician

LONDON (R) — British Conservative Member of Parliament Ian Gow was killed in a powerful car bomb explosion at his home Monday, colleagues said.

Gow, 53, was an outspoken critic of the Irish Republican Army fighting British rule in Northern Ireland.

He was a top aide of Prime Minister Margaret Thatcher until he resigned from government in November 1985 in protest at the Anglo-Irish agreement giving Dublin a say in Northern Ireland affairs.

Police refused to name the man until formal identification of the body.

But Gow's personal assistant confirmed he was the victim.

A close Conservative Party colleague, Ivor Stanbrook, said Gow's death was a great loss to politics.

No one immediately claimed responsibility for the attack, but Stanbrook said it must have been the IRA, which in recent months has stepped up a bombing campaign in mainland Britain.

"It couldn't have been anyone else," he added.

Asked if Gow knew he was a likely IRA target, Stanbrook told a television interviewer: "Yes, certainly, he knew he was."

Aides said Thatcher, working in her 10 Downing Street office in London, was being kept closely informed of developments.

Gow died at his home in the village of Hankham, 65 kilometres south east of London.

Police said that contrary to earlier reports there were no other victims of the blast, from a car parked in his driveway.

Gow, chairman of a parliamentary Northern Ireland Committee, was a prominent supporter of Thatcher's "no negotiations" policy with IRA guerrillas, branded by Britain as terrorists.

Thatcher described Gow as a "grievous loss both to me personally, to the parliamentary life of this country and to his constituents."

She said terrorists must never be allowed to triumph, "no matter how barbarous their methods."

Thatcher herself was the target of an IRA assassination attempt in 1984. Five people were killed when the Grand Hotel in Brighton was blown up on the last night of the Conservative Party's annual conference in the south England seaside resort.

Another top aide to Thatcher, the Conservative Party's Northern Ireland spokesman Airey Neave, was killed by a bomb in his car parked by Irish nationalists as he left parliament in March 1979.

The IRA began a new campaign of bomb attacks in mainland Britain two years ago.

In central London, the Stock Exchange and the Carlton Club, a popular meeting place for members of the ruling Conservative Party, have been bombed in the past five weeks.

On June 12, an explosion damaged the former country home of Lord McAlpine, a Conservative Party fund-raiser. No one was hurt.

Burmese opposition rejects army demands

RANGOON (R) — The opposition challenged Burma's hardline army rulers Monday, rejecting military plans for a protracted transfer of power and calling on the army to convene a new parliament to speed formation of a civilian government.

The National League for Democracy issued a toughly worded statement calling for a rapid handover of power and attacking the military's delay as "shameful."

The unexpected move was the first sign of open confrontation with the army since the opposition was denied the spoils of its election victory two months ago, diplomats said.

"It is against political nature that the League, which has overwhelmingly won enough seats in the parliament to form a government, has been prohibited from minimum democratic rights," the statement said.

The statement, titled the "Gandhi declaration" after the ball in which it has drawn up Sunday, was given to reporters at a news conference at the party's headquarters Monday.

It was the first organised news conference since League leaders Aung San Suu Kyi and Tin Oo were detained more than a year ago.

The League won 80 per cent of the 485 seats contested in the May 27 elections. However, all its subsequent calls for talks with the ruling military council have been ignored.

It rejected army demands last Friday that the assembly draw up a constitution along guidelines set down by an appointed convention.

The ruling military council would submit the constitution to a plebiscite and approve it before allowing a parliament to meet, an army spokesman said.

"The National League for Democracy cannot accept the army declaration and we absolutely disagree with it," League Central Executive Committee member Chan Aye told the news conference.

The League, which has faced growing pressure from within to convert its election victory into power, had drawn up its own constitution that it would pass at the proposed assembly, acting Chairman Kyi Maung said.

"The multi-party democracy general election was held to convene a parliament not a constituent assembly. Therefore the League, which has attained the people's mandate, has drawn up a temporary constitution for convening a parliament," he said.

Hungary's referendum not valid due to low turnout

BUDAPEST (R) — Barely one in seven Hungarians voted in Sunday's referendum to choose how to elect the country's president, a turnout so low that it leaves parliament to choose the next head of state.

The turnout, well below the 50 per cent required to make the vote valid, boosted the presidential chances of interim head of state Arpad Goncz and rebuffed the ex-Communist Hungarian Socialist Party (HSP), one of the referendum's main advocates.

With four-fifths of the vote counted, just 13.8 per cent of Hungary's 7.85 million voters went to the polls on a hot summer day, János Nemeth, president of the Hungarian Election Committee, told a news conference.

Voter apathy left parliament to pick the new president as it has done in the past, but of those Hungarians who voted, the vast majority backed direct elections.

Of the 862,302 votes 85.9 per cent favoured direct elections — advocated by the HSP — and only 14.1 per cent voted that parliament should elect the head of state, Nemeth said.

Although nearly one-fifth of the votes were still uncounted, it was unlikely the trend could change significantly, he added.

The HSP, the Hungarian Socialist Workers Party (HSWP) and leftist inclined independent deputies forced the referendum by collecting over 100,000 signatures.

The results bore out predictions that suspicion of former Communist candidates, holidays, and general disillusionment in post-Communist politics would

keep voters away from the polls.

"I sense a general feeling of indifference in people as great expectations attached to the post-Communist system were not fulfilled," 29-year-old electrical engineer, Karoly Basa told Reuters earlier Sunday.

"These are just last efforts by the Communists to survive their power," a young man at a Budapest polling station said.

Some Hungarians also complained at being dragged to the polls twice on the same issue.

Last November a group of opposition parties barely won a referendum delaying presidential elections to this year.

The November vote ended the presidential hopes of HSP leader Imre Pozsgay, then Hungary's most popular politician.

Pozsgay slumped in opinion polls, but earlier this month a survey showed that, former Socialist Prime Minister Miklos Nemeth was the country's most popular politician, beating his successor, Jozsef Antall.

Four of Hungary's six main parties, including the ruling Hungarian Democratic Forum (HDF) and main rival, the Alliance of Free Democrats (AFD) did not support direct elections.

AFD-member Goncz, 68, who spent six years in Communist jails, was elected Hungary's interim president in May as part of a deal between the HDF and the AFD.

Goncz was a widely accepted choice among the parties in Hungary's parliament, but he also won the hearts of many Hungarians with his grandfatherly style.

Spanish king saves 2 girls from the sea

PALMA DE MAJORCA, Spain (AP) — King Juan Carlos dived into the Mediterranean Sea and rescued two young girls from a small sail boat which capsized because of strong wind, a local daily reported.

Diario de Mallorca said the 52-year-old Spanish king, who was returning to port Saturday afternoon aboard a rubber boat after training for a yacht race, surprised those accompanying him and his security guards by plunging dressed into the sea to help the two crew members of the capsized snipe.

After helping the two girls, identified as two Spanish sisters, to get aboard his rubber boat, the king took them to port and also towed their snipe.

The newspaper said naval authorities in this Spanish island have sent the king a message of thanks for his brave action.

Charles, Diana mark 9th wedding anniversary

LONDON (AP) — Prince Charles and Princess Diana celebrated their ninth wedding anniversary Sunday, away from the limelight. It was the first time in 13 years that the prince has missed playing in the annual Cartier International Polo Tournament at Windsor Great Park.

He had been expected to join his team to contest the prestigious Silver Jubilee Cup in front of a crowd of up to 25,000, before breaking his arm in a fall from a polo pony on June 28. His team withdrew after the prince's accident. However, Queen Elizabeth was on hand to present the Coronation Cup trophy to a victorious England team after they beat their French opponents by six goals to five.

Among the celebrities at the pre-match lunch were actress Jane Seymour; film director Michael Winner and actress Jenny Seagrove. Also present was major Ronald Ferguson and his wife, Susan, the father and stepmother of the Duchess of York.

Pisa mayor urges premier to help save leaning tower

PISA (R) — The mayor of Pisa has urged Prime Minister Giulio Andreotti to resolve a political row which has blocked urgently needed restoration of the city's famous leaning tower. "We can't wait any longer. The tower's been abandoned since it was closed nearly seven months ago and the lack of attention could kill it," Mayor Sergio Cortopassi told reporters.

The 800-year-old bell-tower, which leans about five metres off the perpendicular, was closed in January after experts said it was dangerous for tourists to continue climbing its 294 winding steps. But rivalry between the Public Works and Culture ministries over responsibility for upkeep of the tower has prevented engineers from moving in to shore up its foundations.

The mayor said it was up to Andreotti to resolve the dispute. Parliament has not yet approved the 140 billion lire (\$110 million) needed for restoration work. When the original closure plan was announced, Pisa's tourist industry complained it would mean huge economic losses for the city.

More than four million tourists a year visit the Tuscan city, a quarter of whom climb to the top of the tower. The tilt is almost as old as the tower itself. Begun in 1174, it had already begun to lean by the time builders reached the fourth storey less than five years later.

Actor does homework for new role

DETROIT (AP) — Actor Paul Winfield did his homework for his role in Presumed Innocent, according to the judge who was his role model. "He picked up that feeling of the courtroom, with lawyers going back and forth, trying to get in evidence they know they shouldn't get in, the exasperation, 'you feel,'" District Judge Willie G. Lipscomb said at a screening of the new film.

Winfield observed Lipscomb's court before playing the judge in the film. Presumed Innocent, about a deputy prosecutor accused of murdering a colleague, made its U.S. debut Tuesday night at the Detroit Institute of Arts. The movie, starring Harrison Ford, was filmed partially in Detroit, although the book by Scott Turow was set in a mythical Illinois city.

S. African violence claims 6 more lives

JOHANNESBURG (R) — A group of blacks stoned and stabbed a white man to death in one of six politically-motivated murders in South Africa at the weekend, police said Monday.

Jurgen Kuhne, 26, was killed by a group of rampaging blacks Saturday after he, his father and brother rushed to a neighbour's farm near Vanderbijlpark south of Johannesburg to investigate

reports of fighting.

Newspapers reported that blacks surrounded and killed Kuhne when his car got stuck in sand. His father and brother escaped in another car.

Four blacks were shot and hacked to death in the Natal provincial capital of Pietermaritzburg, according to a routine police report on weekend political unrest.

Nelson Mandela's African National Congress (ANC) last week launched a consumer boycott in Ermelo and other towns in eastern Transvaal to protest against alleged murders and harassment of blacks.

ANC supporters are fighting the traditional Zulu-based Inkatha Movement in a three-year-old struggle for control of black townships in Natal.

Fujimori sacks navy, air force chiefs

LIMA (R) — President Alberto Fujimori, vowing to exert discipline over the military, has sacked Peru's navy and air force commanders in one of his first acts as president and reassigned one of them to a desk job in Washington.

Fujimori removed Navy Commander Admiral Alfonso Panizo from his post and reassigned him to Peru's delegation at the Inter-American Defence Board in Washington, a presidential spokesman said.

Fujimori said shortly after winning June elections that he knew some high-ranking navy officers resented him because of his Japanese ancestry, but that he saw no sign of military disloyalty. He is the son of Japanese immigrants.

"Discipline... is what comes first and the president does not have to give absolutely any explanations," Fujimori told a news conference Sunday.

"We will act without hesitation in all fields and also in that of military discipline," he said when asked about the removals of Panizo and Air Force Commander General German Vucetich, whose new post was not immediately made public.

The shake-up in the air force top command had been in the cards due to charges of graft levelled at Vucetich in the purchase of jet spare parts.

Fujimori's defence minister, Army General Jorge Torres, informed the two men of their dismissals Saturday night, only hours after Fujimori took office from outgoing President Alan Garcia, a spokesman for Fujimori said.

"These changes are not normal, but they were decided by the new government," a Defence Ministry spokesman said.

Fujimori, who earlier in the day presided over the annual military parade in central Lima, said the changes should not be seen as the result of any unease in the military.

"I don't want this to be interpreted as related to any irregularities... discipline in our armed forces is respected from within

and I must deny any malaise," he said.

There has been no sign of any officers planning any open challenge to the government, despite military intervention in the past in times of political crisis. The army last staged a coup in 1968.

Panizo was replaced by Admiral Luis Montes Lecaros at the head of the navy, the most conservative branch of the armed forces, and Vucetich was replaced by General Arnaldo Velardo Ramirez, the Defence Ministry spokesman said.

Fujimori was sworn in Saturday on his 52nd birthday as Peru's 107th president, though he is only the 20th to come to office democratically in this South American country with a turbulent political history.

An agronomist and wild-card candidate, Fujimori came from nowhere to upset internationally-known novelist Mario Vargas Llosa's bid for the presidency and won the elections pledging to end corruption and rebuild Peru's dilapidated economy.

Castro fears U.S. domination as Soviet political problems mount

NEW DELHI (R) — Cuban leader Fidel Castro says he worries that the Soviet Union's economic and political problems could lead to U.S. global domination.

"I feel the Soviet Union has been weakened as a big power. That worries us. The Socialist camp has been weakened," he said in a long interview with Indian Television.

"We are not worried about the common search for peace by the big powers. That is good," he was quoted as saying in a partial transcript made available to Reuters ahead of the first broadcast.

"We are worried that one of those big powers has been weakened. It is undergoing very difficult problems and instead of a bi-polar world we might be facing a uni-polar world under the hegemony of the United States," Castro said.

"That would be terrible," he said. "It would be like the Roman Empire. The Roman Empire would be nothing compared to the arrogance that the U.S. would commit against the Third World if it were to be the only power."

Castro declined to criticise Soviet President Mikhail Gorbachev. "I do not think Gorbachev's idea is to come together with the U.S. against the rest of the world. I have no reason to think evil of Gorbachev," he said.

But he said the changing nature of global relations with the end of the cold war meant the United Nations and the Non-Aligned Movement (NAM), which groups more than 100 developing nations, needed strengthening.

"Talking of democracy and democratisation, we should begin

with the U.N.," he said. "The number of permanent members (of the Security Council) should be increased and also the question of veto power reviewed," Castro said.

"And if we can't abolish it altogether, at least certain strict requirements must be introduced rather than have the simple wish of one country declaring null and void the wishes and decisions of the rest of the world," he said.

"He must do the utmost," Castro said. "to save and strengthen NAM since it is its strength that we badly need."

"If it were necessary when the blocs were in conflict, it is even more important now when the two blocs have become closer or may even disappear."

"Today, when capitalist countries are inviting East European countries to become a part of them and join the plundering of Third World nations, when they talk only of market economy, when there is hardly any talk of help for developing the Third World, there is more need to come together and help preserve the international body which contributes to the unity and defence of our interests."

Castro said he would never give up his own commitment to socialism.

"If the world changes to the right, the more I go to the left. The more adversarial socialism has, the more I love socialism because I believe in socialism," he said.

Castro, saying he felt like a "hurt relative" in Cuba's dispute with Spain over embassy refugees, said Sunday he believed the two countries were on their way to settling the row.

"There is dialogue, there are

contacts and I think it's on its way to being solved," the Cuban leader told foreign reporters after he opened a meeting in Havana of the South Commission, which groups more than 20 developing nations.

"The way I feel is like a hurt relative," Castro added, referring to Cuba's two-week-old dispute with Spain over 18 Cubans sheltering at the Spanish embassy whom Havana has refused to allow to leave the country.

Cuban police maintained a strong police guard around the embassy in downtown old Havana Sunday.

The row has brought normally cordial relations between the two countries to their lowest point ever. Spain has recalled its ambassador for consultations and suspended economic aid to Cuba.

Castro said he understood that Spanish Prime Minister Felipe Gonzalez was taking a brief holiday but when the chance arose, he would try to speak to him about the dispute.

European diplomats said the Cuban leader's latest statements appeared to signal a more conciliatory tone that matched similar low-key statements by Spanish government officials in the last two days.

"The idea seems to be to tone down the political tension and not get into a public polemic," one diplomat said.

The change in tone followed a strongly worded speech by Castro Thursday in which he attacked what he called Spain's "arrogance" and accused Madrid of joining a U.S. campaign of hostility against Cuba.

He said Madrid may cancel, not just suspend, economic aid to Cuba.

Filipino survives after 14 days under quake ruins

BAGUIO, Philippines (R) — A Philippine cook entombed for 14 days with a pile of corpses in the rubble of an earthquake-shattered hotel was pulled out alive Monday.

"I thought I would not make it. I don't think I could have lasted one more day," said 27-year-old Pedro Dy, who survived two weeks without food by drinking his own urine and drips of rainwater.

"I tried to commit suicide several times by banging my head against the concrete beams because I could not take it any more," he told reporters before being flown to hospital in Manila.

Dy was the third survivor found in the last four days under the rubble of the Hyatt Terraces Hotel in Baguio, 200 kilometres north of Manila. A man and a woman entombed for 11 days in an elevator shaft of the hotel were rescued Friday.

The hotel was among dozens of buildings toppled by a strong earthquake which hit the northern Philippines on July 16 killing at least 1,650 people in Baguio and nearby provinces.

"My pillows were the broken arms and the corpses of my dead companions," doctors at a Baguio hospital quoted Dy as saying after his rescue.

"You could say this is a miracle because he had no food for two weeks and yet survived," said Rogelio Bay-An, a doctor at the Baguio General Hospital where Dy was being treated.

Noriega tipped off about invasion by chatty soldiers

MIAMI (AP) — Manuel Noriega learned in advance of the U.S. invasion of Panama because a Marine called his mother to complain the operation would interfere with his vacation, according to secret U.S. army debriefing papers, a newspaper reported.

The security leaks that warned Noriega of the pending invasion were described in some of the more than 140 secret reports written by the joint debriefing centre of the U.S. Army's 470th Military Intelligence Brigade following the Dec. 20 invasion, the Herald reported.

Noriega evaded capture for several days after the U.S. invasion, emerging at the Vatican embassy on Dec. 24. He left the embassy on Jan. 3 and now is being held in a Florida jail awaiting trial on drug trafficking charges.

Captured Panamanian officers told U.S. interrogators that Noriega never expected a full-scale invasion until Dec. 17, when he obtained telephone intercepts and intelligence reports indicating the military assault was imminent.

The Panamanian Defence Force intercepted a phone call from a U.S. Marine assigned to the U.S. embassy in Panama to his mother in the States. U.S. troops later found a transcript of the conversation at the headquarters of Panama's military intelligence agency.

"We've been here in the embassy since 10 o'clock last night waiting for the war to

start," the Marine said. "I was upset... they want to start when I'm getting ready to go home on vacation."

Noriega also received warnings on Dec. 19, just hours before the attack began. Capt. Ivan Castillo, one of Noriega's bodyguards, said two U.S. soldiers were overheard saying the invasion would begin that night.

And on the same day, a U.S. soldier assigned to the arms room at a U.S. base warned his girlfriend of the invasion. A female POF member who was with the girlfriend at the time immediately contacted Noriega's secret police about the conversation, officers said.

Highlights of the debriefing reports were recently videotaped by a British investigative reporter, Paul Lashmar of Granada Television's World In Action, and provided to the Herald.

The U.S. Southern Command in Panama has refused to confirm or deny the authenticity of the documents. "We do not discuss alleged intelligence activities," one official said Friday.

The documents also contain accounts of meetings between Cuban President Fidel Castro and Mike Harari, a retired Israeli intelligence officer and an aide to Noriega. The Panamanians said Harari was working "under Israeli government instructions" to foster better relations with Cuba.

Maj. Felipe Camargo, a Noriega loyalist now imprisoned in Panama who had been the

general's top liaison with the Cubans, said Harari began dealing with Noriega regularly about 10 years ago, when the Israeli arranged for training of the Panamanian army's special anti-terrorist forces in Israel.

Neither Harari's attorneys nor the Israeli government would comment on the documents.

Meanwhile Noriega's longtime personal banker was convicted along with five others Sunday in a scheme to launder \$32 million in cocaine profits for the Medellin cartel.

The verdicts came after seven days of jury deliberations and a six-month-long trial of five international bankers and a Colombian businessman associated with the Bank of Credit and Commerce International (BCCI).

The international bankers were the first to be convicted under U.S. money-laundering laws, and prosecutors hailed the verdict as an important victory in the nation's war on drugs. But it was unclear how the outcome would effect the U.S. government's case against the deposed Panamanian leader, who himself is facing U.S. charges of drug trafficking.

Convicted of conspiracy and various money laundering counts were Amjad Awan, former Miami-based assistant director of BCCI's Latin American division and onetime banker to the deposed Panamanian leader, four other ex-employees of BCCI and a Colombian businessman.

The verdicts were read shortly before noon (1